

## Sermon References for 2/6/21

Lincoln gave his [second inaugural address](#) Saturday, March 4, 1865—41 days before he would be shot by J. Booth.

Please read this account of [Frederick Douglass' meeting with Lincoln](#) immediately after his second inauguration speech. It is powerful to see how influential Douglass, and what he stood for, was to Lincoln and this county. Booth planned to assassinate Lincoln after hearing Lincoln's speech April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1865 promoting voting rights for Blacks.

I believe our history is full of quite a mixture of beautiful, loving, inspiring moments of courage, determination and love...as well as devastating failures and refusals to share the protections necessary to heal. Unlike Paul's realization of the ἀδάπανον (free-of-charge/plentitude / unending supply of) Good News ("gospel"), legislative, judicial and executive officials of our government have so often succumbed to the fear of scarcity.

The Equal Rights Amendment to guarantee equal legal rights for all American citizens regardless of sex/gender continues **today** to face dogged opposition. You would think that enough woman and men would see it important to safeguard and protect the rights of women as equal to that of men today, but no...that's controversial in our state and nation in 2021.

Whether personally, collectively as a church or in your heartfelt conversations and correspondence to leaders of various organizations you are connected to, I pray that together we use our freedom as Paul states in 1 Corinthians 9 to stick your neck out in ways God calls you to in order to further protect and empower those who continued to be denied equality, equity and the same dignity and respect of being human as the most privileged enjoy and take for granted today. I look forward to seeing how God works through each and all of us!

Daryl Davis links (amazing!):

[NPR article / audio](#)

Daryl Davis' [Ted Talk](#) (amazing!)