A Dividing Nation: 1858-1859

Answer: Think of an event, or an issue, that the nation is divided on. What is it, and why is the nation not in agreement about it?

8. LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES
What were the positions of each candidate during the debates for the Illinois Senate?

Why are these debates significant?

9. A HOUSE DIVIDED SPEECH (1858)
How did Lincoln view the Dred Scott case?

What did Lincoln mean by, “A house divided against itself cannot stand”?

What is Lincoln’s position on the issue of slavery? List evidence from the speech that supports this.

10. (1) JOHN BROWN’S RAID (1859)
What was John Brown’s objective?

What is the image showing? After his arrest, what was the decision of the court?

(2) JOHN BROWN’S SPEECH (1859)
Read the speech. Was John Brown an extremist or a martyr in your opinion? Explain your reasoning.

How could this event concerning John Brown further lead to a dividing the nation?