



Viewing Guide: *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832)



Part 1: Background (00:00-3:14)

The 1830s were a period of both rapid economic and geographic growth, but many Americans, including war hero _____, believed that _____ was a big problem. Jackson's nickname was _____ because of his legendary toughness. In _____ he became _____ and promised to reform government.

Part 2: Andrew Jackson and the Cherokee (3:15-11:30)

One of Andrew Jackson's most controversial policies was the _____. Jackson, like many other Americans, believed that the only way for Indian culture to be preserved was _____. Most Americans, including Jackson, believed that _____ culture was _____ to white culture.

The _____, more than any other tribe, had made many of the changes demanded of them by whites. Jackson disliked the idea that Native Americans considered themselves to be sovereign _____ within the states. The land occupied by Native Americans was also considered valuable land because it could be used for _____. Cherokee lands became even more desirable after the discovery of _____.

Removal to the west was supposed to be _____, but tribes that chose to stay had to follow _____. Some native tribes, such as the Choctaw and Chickasaw, agreed to sell their lands and move to Indian Territory in what is now _____. The _____ refused to move. The tribe had adopted many aspects of white culture. They had their own language, newspaper, and constitution. Surprisingly, some Cherokee actually owned _____. Regardless, the state of _____ passed a series of laws that allowed them to take Cherokee _____ and abolished the Cherokee _____. The Cherokee sued the state. They argued that because they had negotiated directly with the federal government, they were considered their own _____.

In the initial case, _____, the Supreme Court ruled that it did not have _____. (Hint: review word from *Marbury v. Madison*) Chief Justice _____ however hinted that the Court could hear a proper case with proper parties.

Part 3: The Case (11:31-End)

_____ was a _____ who had been given permission from the state to live on Cherokee lands. Missionaries posed a problem for states because they advised tribes of their _____ and helped Cherokees learn to _____. In response, Georgia passed a law making it illegal for whites to live on Indian land without a _____. When Worcester and other missionaries refused to leave, they were _____. This became the test case the Cherokees needed.

The Question: Does the state of _____ have the right to assert its own law over Cherokee territory? The Supreme Court's answer, speaking through _____, was _____.

Marshall ordered the two missionaries to be _____, but the _____ refused to follow the Court's ruling. President _____, a strong supporter of _____, did not do anything to change the state's mind. Jackson did eventually convince the state of Georgia to _____ Worcester and the other missionaries.

Despite the fact that the majority of Cherokees did not want to move west, a small group signed a treaty that required the Cherokee to give up all their lands east of the _____. As a result, the Cherokees were rounded up and forced into _____. Soon the Cherokee were forced on a brutal march west without proper supplies in what became known as the _____. Ultimately, the _____ was powerless to stop the removal of the Cherokees.

John Marshall is the longest serving _____ in the history of the Supreme Court.

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you agree with the Supreme Court's ruling? Fully explain your answer.
2. Do you agree with the state of Georgia and Jackson's response? Fully explain your answer.
3. What might happen today if a state and/or the president refused to enforce a ruling of the Supreme Court?