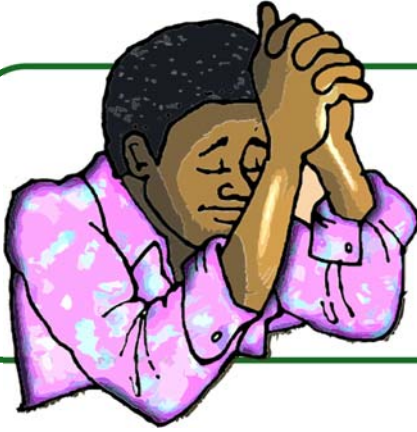


Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Rights Turned Back

**Directions:** Read the information in the chart below. Then complete the missing details by describing how African American rights changed before and after the Dred Scott decision. Use complete sentences.

Time Period	Rights and Status of African Americans
Before the Dred Scott Decision (early 1800s)	Some African Americans were free and could live, work, and contribute to society in some states. Their citizenship status was unclear and often depended on state laws.
After the Dred Scott Decision (1857)	The Supreme Court ruled that African Americans were not U.S. citizens. They were denied legal rights and seen as property with no protection under federal law.

Before the decision, African Americans could

---

---

---

After the decision, African Americans were told

---

---

---

**Reflection Question:** Why do you think this ruling increased national conflict?

---

---