**Chapter 3 – 10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America**

1. How does James Marshall happen upon the discovery of gold at Sutter’s Mill?
2. How does Sam Brannan profit off the gold rush despite not being interested in mining for gold?
3. What is the solider trying to justify in the following quote: “The struggle between right and $6 a month and wrong and $75 a day is a severe one” (page 61).
4. In your opinion is this soldier right or wrong in his thinking? Explain your reasoning.
5. How did President Polk’s final State of the Union address result in “gold fever”?
6. List 3 positive consequences and 3 negative consequences of the gold rush. (pages 74-76)
7. In what way(s) did the gold rush further lead the country towards Civil War?

**Modern Day Connection**

Research the recent trend in cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin. In what ways does the cryptocurrency trend compare with the gold rush? In what ways was is different?

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| **Cryptocurrencies** | **Similarities** | **Differences** |