**Dylan through history**

It was Abraham Lincoln who said**: "Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right".**  This statement says it all.

This well-known song was written somewhere in 1962/ 1963 and recorded for the album “The Times they are a-Changin’ “. The melody of the song is identical to “The Patriot Game”, a song written by Dominic Behan, the melody is borrowed from a traditional Irish folk song. The song was written in the days of the Cuban Missile Crisis in October-November 1962, which led the world to the brink of nuclear disaster.

Once a nation is convinced that it has a special chosen position in the eyes of God, almost any political or military action to expand and consolidate this high position is in the end justified and sanctified with an appeal to the will of God. ”If God is for us, who is against us?” the Bible says in Romans 8:31.

 Any moral scruples, those who are involved in this kind of war may have, are in the end waved aside and silenced by the overruling principle: ‘we have to do it because God is on our side’.  Dylan shows us, in the first seven stanzas of this song, the horrible consequences of such a narrow minded world view.

Oh my name it ain't nothin'
My age it means less
The country I come from
Is called the Midwest
I was taught and brought up there
The laws to abide
And that land that I live in
Has God on its side

Put the next verses

into the right order

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| The First World War, boysIt came and it wentThe reason for fightingI never did getBut I learned to accept itAccept it with prideFor you don't count the deadWhen God's on your side | But now we got weaponsOf chemical dustIf fire them, we're forced toThen fire, them we mustOne push of the buttonAnd a shot the world wideAnd you never ask questionsWhen God's on your side | I've learned to hate the RussiansAll through my whole lifeIf another war comesIt's them we must fightTo hate them and fear themTo run and to hideAnd accept it all bravelyWith God on my side |
| The Spanish-AmericanWar had its dayAnd the Civil War, tooWas soon laid awayAnd the names of the heroesI was made to memorizeWith guns in their handsAnd God on their side | Oh, the history books tell itThey tell it so wellThe cavalries chargedThe Indians fellThe cavalries chargedThe Indians diedOh, the country was youngWith God on its side | The Second World WarCame to an endWe forgave the GermansAnd then we were friendsThough they murdered six millionIn the ovens they friedThe Germans now, tooHave God on their side |
| Through many a dark hourI've been thinkin' about thisThat Jesus Christ wasBetrayed by a kissBut I can't think for youYou'll have to decideWhether Judas IscariotHad God on his side. | So now as I'm leavin'I'm weary as HellThe confusion I'm feelin'Ain't no tongue can tellThe words fill my headAnd fall to the floorThat if God's on our sideHe'll stop the next war |  |