With God on Your Side

Bob Dylan

My name it means nothing
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 the land that I live in
Has God on its side.

The history books tell it
They tell it so well
The cavalries charged
And the Indians fell
The cavalries charged
And the Indians died
The country was young
With God on its side.

The Spanish American
War had its day
And the Civil War too
Was soon laid away
And the names of the heroes
I was made to memorize
With guns in their hands
And God on their side.

The first World War, boys
It came and it went
The reason for fighting
I never did get
But I learned to accept it
And accept it with pride
For you don’t count the dead
When God’s on your side.

The second World War
It came to an end
We forgave the Germans
And then we were friends
Though they murdered six millions
In the ovens they fried
The Germans now too
Have God on their side.

I’ve learned to hate Russians
All through my whole life
If another war starts
It’s them we must fight
To hate them and fear them
To run and to hide
And accept it all bravely
With God on my side.

But now we got weapons
Of the chemical dust
If fire them we’re forced to
Then fire them we must
One push of the button
And a shot the world wide
And you never ask questions
With God on your side.

In many a dark hour
I been thinkin’ ‘bout this
That Jesus Christ
Was betrayed by a kiss
But I can’t think for you
You have to decide
Whether Judas Iscariot
Had God on his side.

So now as I’m leavin’
I’m weary as hell
The confusion I’m feelin’
Ain’t no tongue can tell
The words fill my head
And fall to the floor –
But if God is on our side
He’ll stop the next war.