

Phil Ochs "Chaplain of The War"

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Pre>e a f#m

God bless the men who've learned to put their lives
upon the line,

D b7 g#m

And God bless the men who've learned to sip the
sacrificial wine,

E a c#m a

God bless the men who'll murder in th service of the
lord;

E b7 c#m

Blessings from the chaplain of the war.

Give thanks to the parents who taught them as a boy
they must obey

Give thanks to the church who taught them how to pose
and how to pray

Give thanks to the schools who taught them well what
they are fighting for

Blessings from the chaplain of the war.

I know it will be hard, your finger on the trigger might
refrain

But someone's dealt the cards and the Bible says
you're clearly not to blame

Just think about the past, all the christian guns who've
carried on before

With the blessings of the chaplain of the war.

The enemy is godless, the holy way is one they never
knew

Forgive them as you kill them, believe me, they know
not what they do

And the prisoners you take, you can try to lead them to
the christian shore

Now blessings from the chaplain of the war.

Now you may find it strange that a man of peace is
asking you to fight

But the church is known to change, embracing half the
wrongs it hopes to right

I can't describe the times, I've wrestled with my
conscience to the core

Now blessings from the chaplain of the war.

If the worst comes to be and you crumble in the misty
cloud of pain
I'll fall down to my knees and beg for every mercy on
your name
And your soul will be safe for heaven knows the
burdens that you bore
With the blessings from the chaplain of the war.

When you go for broke and the taking of a life may
leave you lost
Rising from the smoke is the all-inspiring vision of the
cross
Sending you the strength to show you that you can
struggle more
With the blessings from the chaplain of the war.

The commandments are torn we'll teach them when the
victory fire glows
Now my collar is worn just above my military clothes
The religion of the flag, the servant of the saviour and
the sword
Now blessings from the chaplain of the war.

1966 /pre>

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