

**The Blessing**  
**Eric Bogle**

N.B.: Capo 9 or transpose -3 for original key

[Intro]

**G D/F# Em C D**

[Verse 1]

**G**  
I used to cling to the strong belief  
**Am**  
All through life s slowly deepening grief  
**D**  
That in every heart a dream of peace  
**G D**  
Longed for the day of its release  
**G**  
Though peace was often hard to keep  
**Am**  
Though fears and hatred still ran deep  
**D**  
I thought one day they d surely fall  
**G D**  
To the dream of peace that binds us all

[Chorus]

**Em**  
And blessed be those who strive for peace  
**C**  
They shall be shot down in the streets  
**Em**  
Blessed be the free, the proud, and the brave  
**C**  
They shall be humbled and enslaved  
**Em**  
Blessed be those who love and care  
**C D**  
Their hearts shall wither in despair  
**G**  
Above all bless the human race  
**Am**  
For spitting in Creations face  
**D**  
Who knows if we ll live or die  
**G**  
Not I.  
**D/F# Em**  
And who cares if we ll live or die  
**C D**

Not I. Not I.

[Verse 2]

**G**

I used to think that the written word

**Am**

Was more mighty than the gun or sword

**D**

Justice, Truth, and Liberty

**G**

**D**

Were more than just mere words to me

**G**

But weapons, when in Freedom s hand

**Am**

No tyranny could long withstand

**D**

Nor yet delay its final hour

**G**

**D**

Brought to dust by words of power

**Em C Em C Em C Em C**

[Chorus]

**Em**

And blessed be those who strive for peace

**C**

They shall be shot down in the streets

**Em**

Blessed be the free, the proud, and the brave

**C**

They shall be humbled and enslaved

**Em**

Blessed be those who love and care

**C**

**D**

Their hearts shall wither in despair

**G**

Above all bless the human race

**Am**

For spitting in Creations face

**D**

Who knows if we ll live or die

**G**

Not I.

**D/F#**

**Em**

And who cares if we ll live or die

**C**

**D**

Not I. Not I.

[Verse 3]

**G**

So I sit here in my ivory tower

**Am**

Playing with these words of power

**D**

Rhymes fly from my fingertips

**G** **D**

Songs fall smoothly from my lips

**G**

To better see, I stand apart

**Am**

To safer be, I veil my heart

**D**

See Moses down the mountain flies

**G** **D**

Is he bringing truth or lies?

[Chorus]

**Em**

And blessed be those who strive for peace

**C**

They shall be shot down in the streets

**Em**

Blessed be the free, the proud, and the brave

**C**

They shall be humbled and enslaved

**Em**

Blessed be those who love and care

**C**

**D**

Their hearts shall wither in despair

**G**

Above all bless the human race

**Am**

For spitting in Creations face

**D**

Who knows if we ll live or die

**G**

Not I.

**D/F#** **Em**

And who cares if we ll live or die

**C**

**D**

**G**

Not I. Not I. Not I.