

# What Is Truth

Johnny Cash

1. The old man turned off the radio  
Said: "Where did all the old songs go?  
Kids sure play funny music these days!  
And they play it in the strangest ways  
Everything seems so loud and wild  
It was peaceful back when I was a child."  
Well, man, could it be the girls and boys  
Are tryin' to be heard above your noise  
And the lonely voice of youth cries:  
"What is truth?"
2. A little boy of three sittin' on the floor  
Looked up and said, "Daddy, what is war?"  
"Son that's when people fight and die."  
The little boy of three says, "Daddy, why?"  
A young man of seventeen in Sunday school  
Is being taught the golden rule  
By the time another years gone around  
It may be his turn to lay his own life down!  
Can you blame the voice of youth for asking:  
"What is truth?"
3. A young man sittin' on the witness stand  
The man with a book says, "Raise your hand!  
Repeat after me, I solemnly swear"  
The judge looked down at his long hair  
And although the young man solemnly swore  
Nobody seemed to hear anymore  
And it really didn't matter if the truth was there  
It was the cut of his clothes and the length of his hair!  
And the lonely voice of youth cries:  
"What is truth?"
4. A young girl dancin' to the latest beat  
Has found new ways to move her feet  
A young man standin' in the city square  
Is tryin' to tell somebody that he cares  
"Yeah, the ones that your callin' wild  
Are gonna be the leaders in a little while  
This old world is breakin' to a new born day  
And I solemnly swear that it will be their way!  
You'd help that voice of youth find:  
'What is truth!'"