

BLOWING IN THE WIND

Keys of C Major

BLOWING IN THE WIND

Words and Music by Bob Dylan, Arranged by Ric Douglas

C **F** **C**
How many roads must a man walk down,

F Am G7

before they call him a man?

C **F** **C**
How many seas must a white dove sail,

F Am G7

before she sleeps in the sand?

C **F** **C**
How many times must the cannon balls fly,

F Am G7

before they`re forever banned ?

Chorus:

F **G7** **C** **Am**
The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind,

F **G7** **C**

the answer is blowing in the wind.

C **F** **C**
How many years can a mountain exist,

F **G7**

before it is washed to the sea?

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C **F** **C**
How many years can some people exist,

F **Am** **G7**
before they`re allowed to be free?

C **F** **C**
How many times can a man turn his head,

F **Am** **G7**
and pretend that he just doesn`t see?

CHORUS

C **F** **C**
How many times must a man look up,

F **G7**
before he can see the sky?

C **F** **C**
How many ears must one man have,

F **Am** **G7**
before he can hear people cry?

C **F** **C**
How many deaths will it take till he knows,

F **Am** **G7**
that too many people have died?

CHORUS

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"**Blowin' in the Wind**" is a song written by Bob Dylan, and released on his 1963 album *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*. Although it has been described as a 'protest song', the song poses a series of philosophical questions about peace, war, and freedom, without supplying concrete answers. In 1999, the song was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame and in 2004, this song was #14 on *Rolling Stone's* list of The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.

The song became one of the most popular anti-war songs during the 1960s and the Vietnam War. During the Iraq War protests, some commentators noted that protesters were still resurrecting songs like *Blowin' in the Wind* rather than creating new ones [1].

The song has been embraced by many liberal churches and in the 1960s and 1970s it was sung both in Catholic Church "folk masses" and as a hymn in Protestant ones. In 1997, Bob Dylan performed three other songs at a Catholic Church congress and Pope John Paul II, who was in attendance, commented on "Blowin' In The Wind", and told the crowd of some 300,000 young Italian Catholics that the answer was indeed "in the wind" -- but not in the wind that blew things away, rather "in the wind of the spirit" that would lead them to Christ.

In 2007, however, the current pope Benedict XVI, who was also in attendance, wrote that he was, and still is, uncomfortable with music stars like Dylan performing in a church environment. In 1975, the song was included as poetry in a new high school English textbook in Sri Lanka. The textbook caused controversy because it replaced Shakespeare's work with Dylan's.