

# Oh, Say, What Is Truth?

Hymn # 272 Simplified

John Jaques *Firmly* ♩ = 72-96

Ellen Knowles Melling

1. Oh say, what is truth? 'Tis the fair - est gem That the  
2. Yes, say, what is truth? 'Tis the bright - est prize To which  
3. The scep - ter may fall from the des - pot's grasp When with  
4. Then say, what is truth? 'Tis the last and first, For the

rich - es of worlds can pro - duce, And price - less the val - ue of  
mor - tals or Gods can as - pire. Go search in the depths where it  
winds of stern jus - tice he copes. But the pil - the lar of truth will  
lim - its of time it steps o'er. Tho the heav - ens de - part and the

truth will be when The proud mon - arch's cost - li - est  
glit - ter - ing lies, Or as - cend in pur - suit to the  
en - dure to the last, And its firm - root - ed bul - works out -  
earth's foun - tains burst, Truth, the sum of ex - is - tence, will

di - a - dem is count - ed but dross and ref - use.  
loft - i - est skies: 'Tis an aim for the no - blest de - sire.  
stand the rude blast And the wreck of the fell ty - rant's hopes.  
wheth - er the worst, E - ter - nal, un - changed, ev - er - more.