Oh Say, What Is Truth?

1. Oh say, what is truth? 'Tis the fairest gem That the riches of worlds can produce, And priceless the value of mortals or Gods can aspire. Go search in the depths where it winds of stern justice he copes. But the pillar of truth will endure to the last, And its firm root ed bulwarks outwreck earth's fountains burst. Truth, the sum of existence, will diadem is counted but dross and refuse.

2. Yes, say, what is truth? 'Tis the brightest prize To which the last and the first, For the truth will be when The proud monarch's costliest glittering lies, Or ascend in pursuit to the loftiest skies: 'Tis an aim for the noblest desire. stand the rude blast And the wreck of the fell tyrant's hopes. weath er the worst, Eternal, un changed, ever more.

3. The sceptre may fall from the despot's grasp When with its grasp God's justice he has cope. But the pillar of truth will endure to the last, And its firm root ed bulwarks outwreck earth's fountains burst. Truth, the sum of existence, will diadem is counted but dross and refuse.

4. Then say, what is truth? 'Tis the first and the last, For the truth will be when The proud monarch's costliest glittering lies, Or ascend in pursuit to the loftiest skies: 'Tis an aim for the noblest desire. stand the rude blast And the wreck of the fell tyrant's hopes. weath er the worst, Eternal, un changed, ever more.

Text: John Jaques, 1827–1900
Music: Ellen Knowles Melling, 1820–1905
Doctrine and Covenants 93:23–28
John 18:37–38