

From "WAR POEMS" (Siegfried Sassoon)

But the past is just the same,
and war is a bloody game
have you forgotten yet?
look down, and swear
by the slain of the war
that you'll never forget.



THEY (October 1916)
(Siegfried Sassoon)

The Bishop tells us: "When the boys come back
They will not be the same: for they'll have fought
In a just cause: they lead the last attack
On Anti-Christ: their comrades' blood has bought
New right to breed an honorable race,
They have challenged Death and dared him face to face."

"We're none of us the same," the boys reply.
"For George lost both his legs; and Bill's stone blind
Poor Jim's shot through the lungs and like to die
And Bert's gone syphilitic: you'll not find
a chap who's served that hasn't found some change"
And the Bishop said: "The ways of God are strange!"

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