

The Times They Are A-Changin'
 Words and music Bob Dylan
 Album: At Budokan (1978),

G Em
 Come gather 'round people
 C G
 Wherever you roam
 G Em
 And admit that the waters
 C D
 Around you have grown
 G Em
 And accept it that soon
 C G
 You'll be drenched to the bone.
 G Am D
 If your time to you is worth savin'
 D D2/c
 Then you better start swimmin'
 G/b D/a
 Or you'll sink like a stone
 G C D G . .
 For the times they are a-changin'.

G . . | Em . . | C . . | G . . |

Come writers and critics
 Who prophesize with your pen
 And keep your eyes wide
 The chance won't come again
 And don't speak too soon
 For the wheel's still in spin
 And there's no tellin' who that it's namin'.
 'Cause the loser now
 Will be later to win
 For the times they are a-changin'.

Come senators, congressmen
 Please heed the call
 Don't stand in the doorway
 Don't block up the hall
 For he that gets hurt
 Will be he who has stalled
 The battle outside ragin'
 Will soon shake your windows
 And rattle your walls
 For the times they are a-changin'.

Come mothers and fathers
 Throughout the land
 And don't criticize
 What you can't understand
 Your sons and your daughters
 Are beyond your command
 Your old road is rapidly agin'.
 Please get out of the new one
 If you can't lend your hand
 For the times they are a-changin'.

The line it is drawn
 The curse it is cast
 The slow one now
 Will later be fast
 As the present now
 Will later be past
 The order is rapidly fadin'.

And the first one now
Will later be last
For the times they are a-changin'.

Budokan version

Capo 5th fret

C Em
 Come gather 'round people
 F C
 Wherever you roam
 C Em
 And admit that the waters
 F G
 Around you have grown
 C Em
 And accept it that soon
 F C
 You'll be drenched to the bone.
 C Em
 If your time to you
 G
 Is worth savin'
 G
 Then you better start swimmin'

 Or you'll sink like a stone
 C G C
 For the times they are a-changin'.

Alternate studio version (Oct 1963)

Released as a bonus track on the limited edition of "Love and Theft" (2001). This version combines two well-known Dylan features, the G-G6-G7 figure and the high capo position, in a song that's usually played in G.

Capo 5th fret

The "G-G6-G7" figure in its two versions:

G	G6	G7		G	G6	G7
⋮	.	.		⋮	.	.
-3-----0---	(0)-----	-----	and	-3---0---0---	-----	-----
-0-----0---	-0-----	-----		-0---0---0---	-----	-----
-0-----0---	-0-----	-----		-0---0---0---	-----	-----
-0-----2---	-3-----	-----		-0---2---3---	-----	-----
-2-----2---	-2-----	-----		-2---2---2---	-----	-----
-3-----3---	-3-----	-----		-3---3---3---	-----	-----

C Am
 Come gather 'round people
 F C
 Wherever you roam
 C Am
 And admit that the waters
 F G (G6 G7)
 Around you have grown
 C Am
 And accept it that soon
 F C
 You'll be drenched to the bone.
 C Dm
 If your time to you
 G . G6 G7
 Is worth savin'

F
 Then you better start swimmin'
Am G
 Or you'll sink like a stone
C Csus4 C G G6 G7 C
 For the times they are a-chan - gin'.

Alternatives for the next to last lines ("then you better...--...like a stone"):

G7 . . | G6 . . | F . . | G G6 G7 | (verses 2 and 4)

G7 . . | G6 . . | G(6) . . | G . . | (last verse; G6=322000, G(6)=320000)

Alternative for the last line (3rd verse):

C . . | F C G | G G6 G7 | C

Lyricaly the only change is that he sings "vibrate your walls" instead of "rattle your walls" in the third verse.

Live version from Drammenshallen, July 10, 1981

This is a very special version, not only because it was on the first bootleg I ever got, or because it was a one-off opener during that tour, or because of the delightful error in the second verse, or because it was played not far from where I stayed at the time (not that I had the slightest idea, just a kid acting smart at the time) -- but for all these reasons taken together.

Chords:

G6 xx9780
 G6(/a) x09080 (or x09780)
 Em7(/a) x09980
 Bm7(7a) x07777
 Am7 x05555

G6 : : | Bm7/a : : | Am7 : : | : : : |
 G : : | . : C/g | . : : | : : : |

G Em
 Come gather 'round people
C G
 Wherever you roam
G Em
 Admit that the waters
C Am
 Around you have grown
G Em
 Accept it that soon
C G
 You'll be drenched to the bone.
G Em Am
 If your time to you is worth savin'
G6/a Em7/a
 Then you better start swimmin'
Bm7/a Am7
 Or you'll sink like a stone
G6/a Em7/a Bm7/a Am7
 For the times they are a-changin'.

G Em
 Come writers and critics
C G C/g
 Who prophesize with your pen
G Em
 And keep your eyes wide

C
 The chance won't come again
 G Em
 And don't speak too soon
 C G C/g
 For the wheel's still in spin
 G6/a Em7/a Bm7
 And there's no tellin' who that it's namin'.
 G6/a Em7/a
 chords, Dylan goes
 For the loser now
 high...
 Em7/a Am7
 Will be later to win
 G C /b Am G
 For the times they are a-changin'.

For these two
one fret too

G6 Em7/a
 Come mothers and fathers
 Bm7/a Am7
 Throughout the land
 G6/a Em7/a
 And don't criticize
 Bm7/a Am7
 What you can't understand
 G6/a Em7/a
 Your sons and your daughters
 Bm7/a Am7
 Are beyond your command
 G C Am
 Your old road is rapidly agin'.
 G Em
 Get out of the new one
 C Am
 If you can't lend a hand
 G C Am G C/g
 For the times they are a-changin'.

G C/g

G6/a Em7/a
 Come senators, congressmen
 Bm7/a Am7
 Please heed the call
 G Em
 Don't stand in the doorway
 C Am
 Don't block up the hall
 G Em
 He that gets hurt
 C G
 Will be he who has stalled
 G Em Am
 There's a battle outside and it's ragin'
 G6/a Em7/a
 It will soon shake your windows
 Bm7/a Am7
 And rattle your walls
 G6/a Em7/a Bm7/a Am7
 For the times they are a-changin'.

[Harmonica solo, while the band sneaks in]

G Em C G
 G Em C
 G Em C G
 G Em Am
 G Em C Am
 G C C/b Am G

G6/a Em7/a
The line it is drawn
Bm7/a Am7
And the curse it is cast
G6/a Em7/a
The slow one now
Bm7/a Am7
Will later be fast
G6/a Em7/a
As the present now
Bm7/a Am7
Will later be past
G6/a Em7/a Bm7/a Am7
The order is rapidly fadin'.
G6/a Em7/a
And the first one now
Bm7/a Am7
Will later be last
G6/a Em7/a Bm7/a Am7
For the times they are a-changin'.

[instrumental verse as above, this time with full band]