

## Tracy Chapman

# "The Times They Are a Changing"

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Come gather round people wherever you roam  
And admit that the waters around you have grown  
And accept it that soon you'll be drenched to the bone  
If your time to you is worth saving  
Then you'd better start swimming or you'll sink like a  
stone  
For the times, they are a changing

Come writers and critics who prophesize with your pens  
And keep your eyes open, the chance won't come  
again  
And don't speak too soon, the wheel's still in spin  
And there's no telling who that it's naming  
Oh the loser will be later to win  
For the times, they are a changing

Come senators, congressmen, please head the call  
Don't stand in the doorway, don't block up the hall  
For he that gets hurt will be her that has stalled  
The battle outside ragging will soon shake your  
windows  
And rattle your hall  
For the times, they are a changing

Come mothers and fathers all over this land  
And don't criticize what you can't understand  
Your sons and your daughter are beyond your  
command  
Your old role is rapidly aging  
Please get out of the new one if you can't lend a hand  
For the times they are a changing

The line, it is drawn, the curse, it is cast  
The slow one will later be fast  
And the present now will soon be the past  
The order is rapidly fading  
The first one now will later be last  
For the times, they are a changing

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