

Hard Times

(words for the rest of us...)

Words & Music by
Ray Charles

A7#5

D9 F#7 [*bass walk up chromatically to the F#, then walk up to the B*]
My mother told me before she passed away,
Bm Bm7/Bb D9/A Ab7#11
Said, "Child, when I'm gone, don't forget to pray.
G6 Abdim7 D9 C9 B9
'Cause there'll be hard times. Lord, those hard times.
Bb9 A7 D/A A7#5
Who knows better than I?"

Well, I soon found out just what she meant
When I had to pawn my clothes just to pay the rent.
Talkin' 'bout hard times. Lord, those hard times...
Who knows better than I?

INSTRUMENTAL VERSE:

I had some sweet things who were always around
But when I lost my money, they put me down
Talkin' 'bout hard times, hard times
Bb7 A7 D9 F9 E9 Eb9
Yeah, yeah, who knows better than I?

[*vox tacit first line*] Lord, one of these days.
There'll be no more sorrow when I pass away.
And no more hard times, no more hard times, yeah, yeah.

Bb7 A7 D9 F9 E9 Eb9 D9
Who knows better than I?

[*chordal arrangement by Sam Davis*]

A7#5	= 5 x 5 6 6 x or 5 4 3 2 2 x	[<i>better than x 0 3 2 2 x</i>]
D9	= x 5 4 5 5 x	Bm = x 2 4 4 3 x
D9/A	= 5 x 4 5 5 x	Ab7#11 = 4 x 4 5 3 x
G6	= 3 x 2 4 3 x	Abdim7 = 4 x 3 4 3 x
C9	= x 3 2 3 3 x	B9 = x 2 1 2 2 x
Bb9	= x 1 0 1 1 x	D/A = x 0 4 2 3 x