Hard Times
(original words)

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, "Son 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 a woman who was always around
But when I lost my money she 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 guitar arrangement by Sam Davis]

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A7#5   = 5 x 5 6 6 x or 5 4 3 2 2 x [better than x 0 3 2 2 x]
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
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