“When the Ship Comes In” Copyright© 1963; renewed 1991 Special Rider Music Originally from the album *The Times They Are A-Changin’*

Live version from *The Bootleg Series Vol. 7: No Direction Home (soundtrack)*

**Oh the time will come up
When the winds will stop
And the breeze will cease to be breathin’
Like the stillness in the wind
’Fore the hurricane begins
The hour when the ship comes in

Oh the seas will split
And the ship will hit
And the sands on the shoreline will be shaking
Then the tide will sound
And the wind will pound
And the morning will be breaking

Oh the fishes will laugh
As they swim out of the path
And the seagulls they’ll be smiling
And the rocks on the sand
Will proudly stand
The hour that the ship comes in

And the words that are used
For to get the ship confused
Will not be understood as they’re spoken
For the chains of the sea
Will have busted in the night
And will be buried at the bottom of the ocean

A song will lift
As the mainsail shifts
And the boat drifts on to the shoreline
And the sun will respect
Every face on the deck
The hour that the ship comes in

Then the sands will roll
Out a carpet of gold
For your weary toes to be a-touchin’
And the ship’s wise men
Will remind you once again
That the whole wide world is watchin’

Oh the foes will rise
With the sleep still in their eyes
And they’ll jerk from their beds and think they’re dreamin’
But they’ll pinch themselves and squeal
And know that it’s for real
The hour when the ship comes in

Then they’ll raise their hands
Sayin’ we’ll meet all your demands
But we’ll shout from the bow your days are numbered
And like Pharoah’s tribe
They’ll be drownded in the tide
And like Goliath, they’ll be conquered**

**When the winds will stop / The hour when the ship comes in.** Jonah, however, started out to flee to Tarshish from the L-rd’s service. He went down to Jaffa and found a ship going to Tarshish....But the L-rd cast a mighty wind upon the sea, and such a great tempest came upon the sea that the ship was in danger of breaking up. In their fright, the sailors cried out, each to his own god....They cried out to the L-rd, “Oh, please, L-rd, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life. Do not hold us guilty of killing an innocent person! For You, O L-rd, by Your will, have brought this about.” And they heaved Jonah overboard, and the sea stopped raging. (Jonah 1)

**And morning will be breaking.** “[The angel who was wrestling with Jacob said:] ‘Let me go, for dawn is breaking.’ (Genesis 32:27).

Regarding the verse, “They are renewed every morning, great is Your faithfulness!” (Lamentations 3:23), R. Alexandri said: From the fact that You have renewed us in the morning [after the night of the ascendance] of each of the three kingdoms [in which we have been exiled], we know that great is Your faithfulness to redeem us [from Edom -- Rome -- the fourth kingdom]. (Midrash *Bereishit Rabbah* 78:1)

**Oh the fish will laugh… And the rocks on the sand…** [[On that day,] The fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that move on the ground, and every human being on earth shall quake before Me. Mountains shall be overthrown, cliffs shall topple, and every wall shall crumble to the ground. (Ezekiel 38:20)

**The fishes will laugh as they swim out of the path.** Rabbah said in the name of R. Yochanan: The Holy One will make a feast for the righteous out of the flesh of Leviathan, and what is left will be portioned out and made available as merchandise in the marketplaces of Jerusalem. Rabbah also said in the name of R. Yochanan: The Holy One will make a sukkah for the righteous out of Leviathan’s skin. The Holy One will spread the rest of the skin over the walls of Jerusalem, and its radiance will shine bright from one end of the world to the other, as is said, “Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance” (Isaiah 60:3). (Talmud, Bava Batra 74b-75a)

**Then the sands will roll out a carpet of gold.** As Pharaoh set out in pursuit of Israel with his chariots and horsemen, he adorned all the horses with precious stones and pearls. When they reached the sea and the Holy and Blessed One drowned them, all these precious stones and pearls floated to the surface and were cast on shore, so that each day the Israelites would come down and gather them. (*Midrash Tanchuma,* Beshallach 16)

**The whole wide world is watchin’.** The peoples hear, they tremble; / Agony grips the dwellers in Philistia. / Now are the clans of Edom dismayed; / The tribes of Moab, trembling grips them ; / All the dwellers in Canaan are aghast. (Exodus 15:14-15).

**Like Pharaoh’s tribe they’ll be drownded in the tide.** Then the L-rd said to Moses, “Hold out your arm over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians and upon their chariots and upon their horsemen.” Moses held out his arm over the sea, and at daybreak the sea returned to its normal state, and the Egyptians fled at its approach. But the L-rd hurled the Egyptians into the sea. The waters turned back and covered the chariots and the horsemen -- Pharaoh’s entire army that followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. (Exodus 14:26-28)

**Like Pharaoh’s tribe they’ll be drownded in the tide.** Egypt is evident in all of history. Moses and Elijah belong to the same redemptive act; one represents its beginning and the other its culmination, so that together they fulfill its purpose. (R. Avraham Yitzchak Kook, *Orot*, “Eretz Yisrael”)

**And like Goliath, they’ll be conquered.** David put his hand into the bag; he took out a stone and slung it. It struck the Philistine in the forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground. Thus David bested the Philistine with sling and stone; he struck him down and killed him. David had no sword; so David ran up and stood over the Philistine, grasped his sword and pulled it from its sheath; and with it he dispatched him and cut off his head. (I Samuel 17:48-51)