

In Times Like These

The old hymn began with this thoughtful opening line,
Reminding us of the uncertainty of our times;
Written in 1944 though could have been penned today,
The content of the verses still have much to say.

I read the news and most days it almost breaks my heart –
The innocent suffer and families are just torn apart,
Rampant evil everywhere and men's hearts fail them for fear,
Oh that people would reach out and the Saviour's voice hear.

Take a look at the headlines that dominate the news –
Elderly attacked, sometimes raped, and children are abused;
I don't recall such evil when I was but a lad,
At times it's overwhelming because the times are so bad.

I feel a sense of déjà vu musing the verses of this hymn,
The sentiments expressed reveal the weaknesses of man within;
There's a deep void in lives, yet there's One who stands near,
He lovingly waits to help, save and wipe away that tear.

If ever there was a time when I need the Saviour close by,
It's in these days when the transience of life makes you sigh;
You need the Bible, but more than that, you also need a Friend –
His name is Jesus, the Rock on whom you can depend.

This poem was written with that old hymn in mind,
The passing years have to its message been kind –
There is safety for the one who recognises their need,
So trust Him to save you – He is a true Friend indeed.

The Hymn that inspired the Poem

In Times Like These

(1944, written by Ruth Caye Jones)

In times like these, you need a Saviour
In times like these you need an anchor
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid
Rock

First Chorus

This Rock is Jesus, Yes, He's the one
This Rock is Jesus, The only One
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid
Rock

In times like these you need the Bible
In times like these o be not idle
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid
Rock

In times like these, I have a Savior
In times like these, I have an anchor
I'm very sure, I'm very sure
My anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock

Second Chorus

This Rock is Jesus, Yes, He's the one
This Rock is Jesus, The only One
I'm very sure, I'm very sure
My anchor holds and grips the Solid
Rock.