

BACKSLIDERS

Repentance briefly welcomed in,
And feeble flesh returns to sin,
Slides back to worthless ways of old,
And strays beyond the Shepherd's fold.

Convenient lies are thought unheard,
Quick tempers fling an unkind word,
Temptation's traps are tripped on through,
And Calvary's wounds are cut anew.

That One who loved the souls of men
Enough to die and rise again,
Is watching those whose debts He paid
And sees the wicked mess they've made.

It grieves the Lord to hear them sing
The songs of worldly thrills that bring
Dark bondage to their ransomed hearts,
When sin's infectious plague restarts.

The dark disease of Satan's might
Spreads fast when met without a fight
From Christians who cannot repel
The pull of pleasures spawned in hell.

Come back to God, regain your ground,
Restore to life the love you found
Which made you hate the chains of pride
And gave you joy and peace inside!

Return to God and He'll forgive!
Christ's holiness is yours to live!
Through Him alone your life is pure:
Let Christ be Lord, and you're secure.

— David L. Hatton, 1965 (revised 12/31/1993)