

BEFORE IT'S OVER

If, when the draft of death blows deep,
you tremble at the threat of doom,
don't let the darkness garner gloom,
before your dust dissolves in sleep.

Before the shadows crowd the brink,
or mind declines and reason thins,
make careful tally of your sins;
review them, while you still can think.

Remember your Creator's plan,
recall His former gifts of light,
rehearse His visions in the night.
Some spark must smolder you can fan.

Regret's remorse and raw despair
will petrify perdition's choice,
unless you lift repenting voice,
so faith can clasp God's grace in prayer.

Ignore demonic chat and chide—
*"You're too far gone! You've sealed your fate!
You're sacrilegious cry's too late!"*—
or cheers to steer you back to pride.

If devils keep your soul aflame
with bitter rage and failed revenge,
then quench their torch and make them cringe,
forgiving all in Jesus' name.

By trusting Christ, when at death's door,
you'll know His pardon's thrill of peace
and jump from mortal claim's release
into His love forevermore.

— David L. Hatton, 11/7/2019