

---

**Not Marble, Nor the Gilded Monuments (Sonnet 55)**  
**by - William Shakespeare**

- Marble and gilded (gold-plated) monuments are built by the princes and rulers to perpetuate their memory.
  - With the passage of time those monuments, memorials and statues lie neglected and ravaged by the immoral and evil practices of the people living in different times.
  - However, the memory of the poet's friend and patron will not be affected by the ravages of time.
  - The words of this poem will outlive all those monuments, memorials or statues.
  - Wasteful and unnecessary wars will demolish all memorials, monuments and statues erected by princes and rulers.
  - Tumults and conflicts will destroy and ruin huge building and monuments made of stone.
  - Even the mighty sword of Mars, the god of war and the quick fire of war will not touch and affect this 'powerful rhyme'.
  - This sonnet will remain as a living record of the memory of his friend and patron.
  - Neither death nor enmity shall obscure or fade away the memory of the poet's friend and patron.
  - The praise of the poet's friend will find a permanent place in the eyes and hearts of the coming generations through this poem.
  - The memory of his friend will last till the doomsday or the day on which the Last Judgement will occur.
  - The poet's friend and patron will live in the eyes of all the lovers till the day of judgement in the form of this poem and its words.
-