

Sonnet on our Fiftieth Anniversary

Full fifty years have passed since first we wed
And pledged our troth before our friends and kin;
I still remember all the things you said,
And promised, all my mind and heart to win.

And every promise made you truly kept
(To love, to honor, cherish and obey)
But though you did so, you are quite adept
Sweetly obeying what you make me say.

But that's not all –for what I did not know
That there were joys you never mentioned then;
Or promised, yet so freely did bestow
That made me proudest, happiest of men.

It's taken fifty years to realize
That joys unpromised are the best surprise.

Sonnet II

'Twas only yesterday we said ::"I do".
But seven times seven of years (plus one) have passed.
And all the while God's faithfulness proved true:
For seven heptads kept our marriage fast.

In the first we wed, but then were kept apart.
Then reuniting, learned "One heart, One way,"
And in the second cruel Death fast froze our heart
Until His Comfort melted ice away.

The third saw Holy Spirit's power displayed
The fourth and fifth home ministries released;;
And sixth and seventh in Kona service made.
The final year administrivia ceased.

For fifty golden years a Jamboree!
And seven times seven (plus one) a Jubilee!