

Preaching at the wedding of Anna Galamb and
Jonas Zaidys in Alsóörs, at 1500 on May 21, 2011

Together in spiritual blessings

God's Word: Song of Songs, 8:6

When you sent me an e-mail and contacted me on Facebook regarding your special wedding request, this famous wedding song was already running through my head. Love's choice is brave choice, because as the song is about serious and difficult things, which we should explore and translate into a valuable message to each member of the congregation at today's wedding celebration.

The Words we heard are from a song of a true bride faithful to her beloved. Literally, the song recalls traditions of that age, but spiritually it reflects the community of married couple. You also came with love in your hearts, and you want to confess and confirm it, and finally ask for God's blessing in our Church. But not only your hearts put seal on your marriage. Now the happy wedding guests can see love sealed in your hearts and souls, but you must be thinking of tomorrow and the days of struggling for daily bread and all.

Dear Anna and Jonas! Besides these merry days, you live your daily routine in your workplaces and live with plenty of differences: different languages and different cultures. The marriage of Ruth and Boaz, the children of different nations, unite in their love and obliterate these differences.

Set each other as seal not only on your hearts, but also on your arms. Devotion is not enough, let there be readiness to help. After all, God created a helper to both man and woman. Help each other in work, family, and raising your children-to-be. Help each other in understanding to live in peaceful family and repel attacks of the evil. You know everyday family life is not full of joy. After the wedding party come the everyday work and problems. Time will bring you different problems, and you should do your best to resolve them. But you may not always succeed. When God's Word speaks about Death, it refers not only to the end of physical life, but also death that threatens marriage. Get prepared: your shared life will be exposed to spiritual diseases. If only your sound joy and happiness would last forever, but get prepared for ordeals.

Yet if you want to stand with faith devoted to God, you shall not fear. God's Word is there to witness: there is an extraordinary power that can defeat death. "Love is as strong as death". This is the wonderful message of our Christianity: live a balanced life that can prevent spiritual illness. Only in love you can prevent and fight envy, jealousy, and other sins. Why? Because Christian love draws from God's love again and again. Those who believe

shall find salvation; it is true for both individuals and families. It is God's promise to the followers: you can set foot to marriage if you start with the love of Jesus Christ.

After all, if there is still doubt in your hearts, you may ask how God's alliance will manifest in a family. God's Word answers your question. Literally, we could as well be thinking of the warmth of fire of human love in your heart, but there is some more about it.

Dear Anna and Jonas! Metallurgy removes slag from raw iron ore. Metals melt out at high temperature, but waste slag remains. We do not want to get that waste, and it is a big problem to have such waste. What we want is the precious metal.

God's spiritual and hot fire burns and cleans lives in the furnace of the world, and precious metals of spiritual treasures of families much tried in ordeals crystallize to form lasting values. Each congregation offers an opportunity to purify our souls and time after time we hear only spiritual treasures enrich us, because our faith and love can make God's peaceful blessing come true on us.

God's Word's fire is the Holy Spirit's fire, which we should not talk about only in Pentecost. It is my belief and it is our belief that the Spirit is now working for us here in this service: only his light can make us understand we are attending not a mere ceremony, but a true service to God. We do not celebrate our intentions, but God's will, who ordered you to marriage and summoned us all. We are

offering something more than our best wishes! Today you are receiving God's blessing God is giving you to your marriage in the community of our Church. This blessing is a condition to happy life, and that is why I am pronouncing this blessing and peace. Keep your souls' treasures in every single day of your lives. Amen.