



A CHRISTIAN PREAMBLE TO YOUR WILL

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8a).

With these words Jesus calls us to bear witness to the salvation which He won for all believers through His suffering and death on the cross. And with this promise He enables us to serve as His witnesses through the Holy Spirit working by way of the Word.

When planning your Will, you can grow so preoccupied with how to distribute your material blessings that you may fail to share your true wealth: the Good News of forgiveness of sin and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

A Christian Preamble is a way for you to begin your will with a simple, personal statement of faith. It is a lasting opportunity to proclaim your love of the Lord to family and friends.

A Christian Preamble is:

- A source of comfort to mourning family and friends. They are reassured their loved one died in faith, sure of God's promise of eternal life.
- A powerful message of love and encouragement, urging others to trust in Jesus Christ and strengthen their own faith.
- A public record of Christian love when used with a will, because the will is filed in probate court, and the Christian Preamble becomes part of the public record.

You can write your own Christian Preamble. Perhaps you want to include favorite Bible verses, or you can offer your final prayers for loved ones, mentioning them by name and encouraging them to grow in faith.

Prayerfully consider adding one of these sample Christian Preambles to your Will or use them as a guide in writing your own.

Preamble 1

First, realizing the uncertainty of this life, I place full confidence and trust in my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who promised: “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.” (John 11:25-26).

Second, knowing that the wages of sin is death, I believe that Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, suffered and died for the forgiveness of all my sins, which I neither deserve nor merit, but receive as a free gift of God, who is rich in grace and mercy.

Third, I urge my heirs not to set their hopes on uncertain riches, but to take hold of the life which is life indeed through faith in Jesus Christ.

(over...)



Preamble 2

First, I commit myself to God's care, secure in His love for me and trusting in the salvation purchased for me through Christ's suffering and death. I leave those who survive me the comfort of knowing that I have died in this faith and have now joined my Lord in eternal glory.

Second, I commend my loved ones to the protecting arm of God, knowing He will continue to provide for them despite my absence; and I encourage them to place their faith and trust in Him alone.

Preamble 3

First, I want my loved ones to know that I place full confidence and trust in my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who promised: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26).

Second, knowing that the wages of sin is death, I believe that Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, suffered and died for the forgiveness of all my sins, which I neither deserve nor merit, but I receive it as a free gift of God, Who is rich in grace and mercy.

Third, I leave to all of my loved ones the words of our Savior, found in John 3:16; "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." I leave those who survive me the comfort of knowing that I have died in this faith and now have joined my Lord in eternal glory.

Fourth, I pray that the Lord would guard and protect my children. You are very special to me and I thank the Lord for you. Through your baptism you have been received into God's family and I urge you to remain faithful to Christ until you are called home to be with the Lord. I love you and I look forward to eternity with you in heaven.

Lastly, I recognize that all of my earthly possessions are a gift from God. Therefore, I have made provisions in my will to continue my Christian stewardship after I have gone to Heaven to be with my Lord. I trust that what I offer as a gift will be blessed many times over by the Lord in building His Kingdom.