



## 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 made possible through His death and resurrection. We have a final opportunity to serve as His witnesses by including a Christian Preamble in our will.

When planning a will, we can sometimes grow so preoccupied with the distribution of our material blessings that we may fail to share our true wealth: the Good News of forgiveness of sin and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

A Christian Preamble is a way to begin your will with a simple, personal statement of faith. It is the last 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 as 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 since a will is filed in probate court and must be copied to all beneficiaries as part of the estate administration.

You can write your own Christian Preamble, perhaps including favorite Bible verses and prayers for loved ones, mentioning them by name and encouraging them to grow in faith. You can also consider adding one of these sample Christian Preambles to your Will or just 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.



## **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, death and resurrection. 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 that 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 praise God for giving me a loving, caring, Christian helpmate in my wife/husband. She/He has been a blessing to me, and a wonderful mother/father to our children. Knowing that we both share our faith in Jesus as our Savior, we will praise the Lord forever in Heaven. 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 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 the Lord. I trust that what I offer as a gift will be blessed many times over by the Lord in building His Kingdom.