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MINISTRIES®

# SPIRITUAL WARFARE GOD'S WAY

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TN23

**S P I R I T U A L**

**W A R F A R E**

**GOD'S WAY**

**Teaching by Joyce Meyer**

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# SPIRITUAL WARFARE GOD'S WAY

## The Warfare Of Rest

### I. Foundation

War – We are soldiers in God's army.

- A. **Enemy** – Devil and demons – spiritual not physical.
- B. **Weapons** – Not carnal (II Corinthians 10:3-5)
- C. **Armour** – Not carnal (Ephesians 6:10-18)
- D. **Battleground** – Not carnal
  - 1. The mind is the battleground.

### II. Statement Of Purpose

To teach you how to have power to defeat the devil, not to teach you methods of warfare that wear you out and accomplish nothing

### III. Spiritual Armour And Weapons

- A. The warfare of rest
  - 1. Ephesians: Chapter 6 – Having done all, **STAND**.

Stand = Abide and rest

2. **Hebrews 4:3, 10-11** – Enter rest. Cease weariness and pain of human labor.
- B. Believing causes us to enter.
1. Believing **IN** and **THROUGH** as well as **FOR**
    - a. **Hebrews 6:11** – Go all the way through.
    - b. **Hebrews 10:35-36** – Need patience to receive promises.
  2. **Philippians 1:28-29** – Don't be impressed by the problem.
- C. Why doesn't God deliver us sooner?
1. Getting us ready for frontline battle
    - a. **Isaiah 41:10** – Fear not, I am hardening you to difficulty.
    - b. (Example: Geraniums)
  2. **Psalm 94:12-13** – God disciplines us by trial so we can learn to stay calm in adversity.
- D. Seated in heavenly places
1. We are seated
    - a. **Ephesians 2:5-6**
    - b. **Ephesians 1:20**
    - c. **Revelation 4:2-3, 9-10; 5:1, 7**
    - d. **Hebrews 1:3, 13**
  2. Jesus was always described as **seated**.

3. Definitions:
  - a. Seated/Seat – A foundation on which one rests, to fix firmly in place.
  - b. Rest (Vine’s) – Not a rest from work but in work. Not inactivity but rest while being active. The harmonious working together of all your faculties because each has found its sphere of satisfaction “**IN HIM.**”
  - c. Rest (JM) – A spiritual place where I sit down and cease struggling outside (works of the flesh) and inside (being upset or wrought up).
4. **John 14:27** – Stop allowing yourself to be upset.
 

**I Peter 3:4** – A peaceful spirit, not anxious or wrought up
5. Priests in the Old Testament could not sit down. Jesus said, “It is finished,” and **He sat down!**

E. We are the sanctuary, the house of the Lord.

1. Keep the house peaceful.
  - a. Mind – Sit down.
  - b. Will – Sit down.
  - c. Emotions – Sit down.
2. Example – We do not let our children destroy the peace in the house. We say, “Sit down.”

F. Wear your shoes of peace.

1. **Exodus 14:13-15** – Hold your peace; the Lord will fight for you.
2. **II Chronicles 20:15, 17** – The battle is not yours, but God’s.

G. Enter rest especially concerning your own perfection.

1. **Jesus is our Intercessor.**

a. **I John 2:1**

b. **Romans 8:34**

**STAND STILL – TAKE YOUR POSITION!**

## PROPHECY – Going Through And Being Equipped

“Thus saith the Lord, many today are standing in offices, trying to function in those offices; and they are not equipped. Many will not take the time to get their equipment. They get so excited over the call and the office that they don’t realize they have never gotten their equipment. It takes time to get equipment; most are in too big of a hurry. They are operating in their timing, not mine, says the Lord. I called Paul, I anointed Paul; but I didn’t separate him to that call for a good number of years. During those years, he was performing various ministry functions. I was using him; but mainly, he was getting his equipment. Then when he was “fully equipped,” I separated him unto the thing for which I had originally called him. He was able to carry his ministry all the way through to the finish because he wasn’t running on excitement alone, he wasn’t just teaching doctrine; but he was a man called and anointed, imparting revelation, fully equipped to stand in faith until the full accomplishment of his purpose had come to pass.

Many today that I’ve called and anointed are getting started with a bang, but then they fizzle out real fast. Some **make it** for a while, but they struggle constantly – they have no joy. All their joy is taken because they are in an area they aren’t equipped to be in yet. Some make it part of the way through, and then they can’t go on because they are too weak to finish. Paul said, “I have run a good race; I’ve finished my course.” I say unto you, I’m looking for people called, anointed, equipped, and separated unto Me. I’m looking for people to go all the way through, to finish the race. But remember: when one is intending to run a race, they will never finish if they haven’t spent a long time preparing for the race. If they “jump the gun” so to speak and get started too soon, they run the risk of being disqualified as unfit to run. But the one who knows he is called to run the race, prepares himself patiently, waits in the starting block for the starter Himself to sound the trumpet, and then runs patiently and diligently. This runner, I say unto you, will win the race.”







# Protected By His Presence

## I. The Presence Or The Presents

A. **Luke 4:4** – Man shall not live by bread alone.

1. **Deuteronomy: Chapter 8** – (Share how God dealt with me.)

- a. No person can win the battle until this lesson is learned well. “Man shall not live by bread alone.”
- b. Can not live by presents but by His presence.
- c. Tent Card – Anything you have to have to be satisfied besides God is something the devil can use against you.

2. **Exodus 33:13-15** – Show me Your ways and do not send me if Your presence is not going.

**Verses 16-23** – God promised to show Moses His presents because Moses desired first His presence.

3. **Joshua: Chapter 6** – They marched into battle with His presence. They sent the Ark first.

- a. **Psalm 91** – The secret place of the Most High
- b. **Psalm 31:20** – Hidden from the strife of tongues in His presence

SKIT: (5 minutes) Make a circle. Believer is being chased by the devil. Doesn't fight with devil but runs to “the presence” (represented by the circle) and rests in the center.

4. **Numbers 21:8** – Brass serpent on pole

(Get your eyes back on Jesus.)

- a. **Hebrews 12:2** – Looking away from all that will distract unto Jesus, Who is the Author and Finisher.

(Trouble is sent to **DISTRACT** you from the Lord.)

b. **John 6:48-51** – Your forefathers had miracles (presents), and yet they were not satisfied.

c. **Psalm 106:9-15**

5. **Jeremiah 2:13** – Digging wells

a. They forsake Me.

b. They dig wells with no water to quench their thirst.

B. Require God as vital.

1. **Psalm 27:4** – ***One thing** have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.*

**Psalm 27:8** – *You have said, Seek My face [inquire for and require My presence as your vital need]. My heart says to You, Your face (Your presence), Lord, will I seek, inquire for, and require [of necessity and on the authority of Your Word].*

a. Share how God taught me to require Him as I would something my life depended on.

b. What do you require to be content?

2. **Psalm 53:2** – “Be desperate” all the time – not just when you have desperate circumstances.

3. **Personal** victory over **personal** problems comes from spending **personal** time with the Lord.

4. This is spiritual warfare!

**Ephesians 6:10** – Be strong “in the Lord” through your union with Him.





# Doing Warfare With Words

## I. Weapons – Not Carnal But Spiritual

A. **II Corinthians 10:4** – The mind is the battlefield.

1. Satan's lies are his fiery darts.
2. **Use the Word** and resist **theories, imaginations, and reasonings.**

B. Jesus SAID, "It is written."

## II. Words – Containers For God's Power

A. **John 6:63** – Jesus said they are spirit and life.

1. **James 1:21** – . . . *contains the power to save your souls*
2. **Proverbs 18:21** – Power of life and death

B. Be quiet during hard times.

1. **John 14:30** – Jesus did not talk much during pressure.

*I will not talk with you much more, for the prince (evil genius, ruler) of the world is coming. And he has no claim on Me. [He has nothing in common with Me; there is nothing in Me that belongs to him, and he has no power over Me.]*

2. **Isaiah 53:7** – He opened not his mouth.

*He was oppressed, [yet when] He was afflicted, He was submissive and opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth.*

C. **Luke 22:46** – Enter not into temptation!

*And He said to them, Why do you sleep? Get up and pray that you may not enter [at all] into temptation.*

1. What kinds of temptation? What kinds of sin?

a. **I Corinthians 10:9–10** – Complaining opens a door for destruction.

*We should not tempt the Lord [try His patience, become a trial to Him, critically appraise Him, and exploit His goodness] as some of them did – and were killed by poisonous serpents;*

*Nor discontentedly complain as some of them did – and were put out of the way entirely by the destroyer (death).*

**Not complaining during trials is spiritual warfare!**

b. Moses – His mouth

(1) **Exodus 17:6**

(2) **Numbers 20:11**

(3) **Psalms 106:32-33**

c. **I Thessalonians 5:18** – In all things, give thanks.

*Thank [God] in everything [no matter what the circumstances may be, be thankful and give thanks], for this is the will of God for you [who are] in Christ Jesus [the Revealer and Mediator of that will].*

d. **Philippians 2:14** – Do all things without grumbling and faultfinding and complaining [against God] and questioning and doubting [among yourselves].

- e. **Philippians 4:6** – *Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.*
2. Example: When I had cancer – five things the Lord told me to keep in my mouth:
    - a. God is good.
    - b. This is the day the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it.
    - c. God loves me.
    - d. I love You, Father.
    - e. I trust You, Lord.
  3. I was doing spiritual warfare!

### III. Using Your Mouth As A Weapon

#### A. The sword of the Lord

1. **Hebrews 4:12** – The Word is sharp like a sword.
2. **Ephesians 6:17** – The sword that **the Spirit** wields

If you are full of the Word, you are full of battle implements. The Spirit **selects** the right weapon for the occasion. All you need to do is throw the weapon at the enemy.

3. Remember **Luke 4:1-13**: It is written.
4. **Revelation 19:15** – Out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword.

#### IV. Do You Want To Speak The Word With Power?

- A. **Luke 4:32** – Jesus’ words were with power.
- B. Not as a formula, learned behavior, or a method – but with power

- 1. Must be pure and with no mixture

- a. **James 3:8-11** – *But the human tongue can be tamed by no man. It is a restless (undisciplined, irreconcilable) evil, full of deadly poison.*

*With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who were made in God’s likeness!*

*Out of the same mouth come forth blessing and cursing. These things, my brethren, ought not to be so.*

*Does a fountain send forth [simultaneously] from the same opening fresh water and bitter?*

- b. **Ephesians 4:29** – *Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor unwholesome or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace (God’s favor) to those who hear it.*
- c. **Isaiah 58:9** – *Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, Here I am. If you take away from your midst yokes of oppression [wherever you find them], the finger pointed in scorn [toward the oppressed or the godly], and every form of false, harsh, unjust, and wicked speaking.*
- d. **Isaiah 58:13** – *If you turn away your foot from [traveling unduly on] the Sabbath, from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and honor Him and it, not going your own way or seeking or finding your own pleasure or speaking with your own [idle] words.*





# The Warfare Of Love

## I. End-Time Warfare

A. **Matthew 24:12** – Love grows cold. The devil desires to shut down love.

1. **Galatians 5:6** – Faith works by love.

2. **I John 5:4** – This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.

B. **I John 3:18** – Love is not theory or talk, but action.

1. Love is “**how we treat people.**”

**I John 3:14-18** – *We know that we have passed over out of death into Life by the fact that we love the brethren (our fellow Christians). He who does not love abides (remains, is held and kept continually) in [spiritual] death.*

*Anyone who hates (abominates, detests) his brother [in Christ] is [at heart] a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding (persevering) within him.*

*By this we come to know (progressively to recognize, to perceive, to understand) the [essential] love: that He laid down his [own] life for us; and we ought to lay [our] lives down for [those who are our] brothers [in Him].*

*But if anyone has this world's goods (resources for sustaining life) and sees his brother and fellow believer in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him?*

*Little children, let us not love [merely] in theory or in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity).*

2. **I Corinthians 13:1-8** – (Read)

3. **Matthew 7:1-6** – Judge not, lest ye be judged.
    - a. Judgment is an open door for the devil to tear you in pieces.
    - b. Example: (Props) Rose-colored glasses and magnifying glass
  4. **Romans 2:1** – You do the same things you judge others for.
  5. **John 8:15** – You judge according to the flesh.  
(Use rock as an example.)
  6. Love is an effort.
- C. Love is sacrifice.
1. **Mark 8:34**
  2. **Isaiah: Chapter 58** – Fast your own selfish ways and get to God's business of love.
- D. How we talk to people (**Isaiah: Chapter 58**)
1. By this (love) shall all men know that you are My disciples (**John 13:34-35**).
  2. Let your light shine.
  3. Don't let **love** grow cold.
    - a. **Matthew 24:12** – *And the love of the great body of people will grow cold because of the multiplied lawlessness and iniquity,*
    - b. Be aggressive against the enemy.

**MARCH AGAINST HIM WITH LOVE!**





# The Warfare Of Obedience

## I. Scripture References

- A. **James 4:7** – Submit to God; resist the devil, and he will flee.
- B. **Romans 12:1-2** – **Decide** to do it God’s way so you may see His good plan come to pass for your life.
  - 1. Example: David – Obey each step of the way, and you will be free.
- C. **Isaiah 1:19** – *IF you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land . . .*

## II. Are You Tired Of Trouble?

- A. Example:
  - 1. **Haggai 1:2-11** – Disobedience and procrastination kept them with continual problems.
  - 2. **I Samuel 15:22** – Obedience not sacrifice is His will.
- B. **Power** to defeat the devil
  - 1. **Philippians 2:8** – Extreme obedience **brings death to self.**
  - 2. **Hebrews 5:8**
  - 3. **Romans 5:19** – The blessing to many of one Man’s obedience
  - 4. **I Peter 4:1-2** – Suffering
  - 5. **Luke: Chapter 22** – The decision is the hard part – stop resisting the pain.
  - 6. **Romans 8:17** – Glory requires suffering.

### III. Commit – Commitment

- A. This is one area of obedience that is on my heart.
1. **KEEPING YOUR WORD!!!**
  2. Definitions:
    - a. Vow
    - b. Pledge
    - c. Swear
    - d. Promise
    - e. Or simply **SAY** you will do something
  3. **Psalm 15:4** – Swear to your own hurt (suffering) and change not.
  4. Emotions help you get started; hard work brings the finish.
  5. “Be slow to speak.”
  6. **Luke 14:28-30** – Calculate the cost.  
Example: Chicken and Pig story
  7. **Ecclesiastes 5:1-7** – Pay your vows.
  8. **Proverbs 11:3** – The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but stubbornness shall destroy them.
- B. Exhortation on over committed and uncommitted
1. Over committed get burnout.
  2. Uncommitted accomplish nothing.  
**Ephesians 5:15-18** – They are vague.

**HEAR FROM GOD AND FOLLOW THROUGH!!**



