



Developing a Warfare Mentality

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Elder Kenneth Norman - Teacher

Psalm 144:1 KJV - Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.

We are living in a time in which it is crucial and critical for the church, the Body of Christ, to operate from a warfare mentality.

- We can no longer be spiritually passive.
- We must be passionate about the purpose and the plan of God and our roll in that plan.
- Circumstances and situations of life must not be allowed to take the fight out of us.

The New Testament makes it clear that we are in a war.

2 Timothy 2:3-4 ESV - Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.

- We become enlisted soldiers in the army of the Lord when we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We chose at that moment to be on the Lord's side.
- We are now most assuredly an enemy to the satan and to the kingdom of darkness.
- Satan's plan is to steal from you, kill and destroy you. He is your enemy. **John 10:10** - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Exodus 15:3 KJV - The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

- Since our Lord is a man of war that would mean that He has a warfare mentality. If God has a warfare mentality, then we too must develop a warfare mentality.

We are to be God's occupying force in the Earth.

Luke 19:12-13 -¹²He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. ¹³ And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

- An occupying force has the absolute responsibility of providing for the basic needs of the people under its control, including food, clothing, shelter, medical attention, and the maintenance of law and order.

We are to fight the good fight of faith.

1 Timothy 6:12 - Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

The reason it is a good fight is because Jesus has won the victory for us.

Colossians 2:15 AMP - [God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross].

Hebrews 2:14-15 KJV - Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

John 16:33 KJV (underscored words added) - These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation (pressure, oppression, persecution, affliction, distress): but be of good cheer; I have overcome (conquered) the world.

I John 5:4 KJV - Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Romans 8:35-39 AMP - ³⁵ Who shall ever separate us from Christ's love? Shall suffering and affliction and tribulation? Or calamity and distress? Or persecution or hunger or destitution or peril or sword? ³⁶ Even as it is written, For Thy sake we are put to death all the day long; we are regarded and counted as sheep for the slaughter. ³⁷ Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors [m]and gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded beyond doubt (am sure) that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things [n]impending and threatening nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ Nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. And because God is love, we cannot be separated from Him.

- We will not end up as POW's in the devil's camp.
- We will live life as an overcomer, as a victor and not a victim in Jesus Name.

Keys To Developing the Right Mentality in Spiritual Warfare

1. Know We've Already Won Through the Victory Jesus Won For Us

- This must become a reality in our lives even though we may not understand how God is working the situation out for His purpose and for our good. **Romans 8:28 KJV - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.**
- Don't let the devil deceive you with his lies of defeat saying that you'll never achieve anything, you'll never have anything, nobody could ever love you.
- Rise up as the redeemed and say who you are! **Psalms 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;**
- Place the truth of God's Word down on the inside of you because a truth will always expose a lie. **John 17:17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**

2. Always Live Life On The Offensive

- Don't live life reacting to negative things that happen but be the one initiating positive things.
- Wake up declaring the Word of God over yourself and your family.
- Don't take your spiritual armor off. **Ephesians 6:13-17 - ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

II Corinthians 10:4-5 - *The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; ⁵Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

- We have weapons for use, not for storage to build an arsenal.
- God expects us to be on the offensive to pull down strong holds not only in our lives but in the lives of others.