

# How We Should Understand Spiritual Warfare

*(This article is a summary of one of Mike Parsons' teaching videos)<sup>1</sup>*

I've written on understanding the Kingdom's perspective on spiritual warfare in the the past,<sup>2</sup> but there is more to know – there's always more to know in the Kingdom.

Here's more from Mike Parsons on how sons should think about spiritual warfare in the 21<sup>st</sup> century:

1. Understand that the NT writers were in a period of transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant (completed in 70 AD). The spiritual dynamic of those days is different to today. Therefore we can't completely transfer the spiritual logic of that day to this day.
2. The NT analogy of a soldier's armour compared to our spiritual protection was drawing on common knowledge of the 1<sup>st</sup> century where soldiers were commonly in the streets, functioning as the local police force. This analogy was not intended to emphasise spiritual dealings as being an engagement for forceful attacking.
3. We cannot devise techniques of spiritual warfare in isolation from Jesus' teaching.
4. We must interpret all of Paul's writings through the principles that Jesus taught – no other use of his teachings are acceptable.
5. Our King is the Prince of Peace, and we are to be peace-makers (not peace-keepers). Aggression, killing, attacking, etc. are not compatible with our peace-force role.
6. The "**helmet of salvation**" is addressing our thinking. Our mindsets, worldviews and belief systems must be compatible with the Kingdom. This requires a renewing of our mind with spiritual reality from the Truth himself. No other source is appropriate for this mental conversion.
7. **The most important mindset that we are to have is what Father thinks about us.** That's the truth (reality), not what we think about ourselves, or what others think about us. Anything different to Father's attitude is a lie which intentionally or unintentionally is designed to rob us of our identity and to destroy our standing as a son in our own eyes.
8. The "**breastplate of righteousness**" is our righteousness in Father's sight. It's not something we need to work to achieve or to earn. We are already righteous – it's free and it's a reality (it's true).
9. All we really need to do to achieve the results that spiritual warfare is meant to achieve for ourselves is to live out of our identity – i.e. who we are as a son.
10. The "**sword of the Spirit**" is not a killing machine, it's a paring tool (a dividing tool). Its job is to allow us to separate what's Kingdom from what's not. The 'Word of God' – his communication to us from him to our spirit – helps us separate what's spiritual from what's soulish, and what's righteous in his sight<sup>3</sup> from what's unrighteous.
11. Our functionality is to mimic Father by being loving (with his love) and a blessing to others. We're also to be restorative in our attitudes, thinking, actions and speech. Those are all incompatible with the arena of warfare.
12. Rather than fighting against the enemy or his lies, we're to just focus on what's spiritually true, and live out of that.
13. **IMPORTANT:** We can't love others if we use spiritual warfare against them.

1 – Mike Parsons (8-4-2026) "Beyond the Hype: Understanding Spiritual Warfare in Today's Church" [youtu.be/O0al8UvH0Ow](https://youtu.be/O0al8UvH0Ow) [3:25-13:15]

2 – "The Kingdom Way: Spiritual Warfare" (28-12-2025)

[canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Kingdom-Way-Spiritual-Warfare.pdf](https://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Kingdom-Way-Spiritual-Warfare.pdf)

"Maturity and Spiritual Warfare" (8-1-2023)

[canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Maturity-and-Spiritual-Warfare.pdf](https://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Maturity-and-Spiritual-Warfare.pdf)

3 – "A Different Take On: What Righteousness Is" (15-7-2022)

[canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/A-Different-Take-On-What-Righteousness-Is.pdf](https://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/A-Different-Take-On-What-Righteousness-Is.pdf)

14. Spiritual warfare is an oxymoron – if you're spiritual, in the ways of the Kingdom, you don't use warfare.
15. Modern spiritual warfare puts our focus on the enemy, rather than on Father.
16. When we get behind what Father's doing, the enemy gets taken care of without our need to engage in warfare.
17. ~~EXEMPLAR~~ When Peter cut off the ear of the servant, Jesus said that attacking wasn't the way of the Kingdom. He then healed the ear and demonstrated restoration as a function of the Kingdom.
18. When Jesus said that he came to bring a sword, it wasn't for war. Instead, it was to bring truth which would divide people on their allegiances, so they could see who belonged to the Kingdom and who didn't. Even in families this division was to make it obvious who adheres to the Kingdom and who didn't. And...it works the same today.
19. Despite the division that the Kingdom causes between people, Jesus told us to love others, 'no matter what'.
20. ~~CRITICAL~~ Confrontation doesn't belong in the Kingdom. Jesus' life demonstrated that fact.

## RESOURCE:



Mike Parsons "Beyond the Hype: Understanding Spiritual Warfare in Today's Church" [LINK](#)

▶▶ My archived teaching articles are [HERE](#), [HERE](#) & [HERE](#) ◀◀

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)