

The Christian Life and Warfare

by Watchman Nee

This sermon emphasizes the importance of spiritual warfare and the need to overcome sin, the world, and the devil through the power of the cross and the guidance of the Spirit.

Scripture: Romans 6:6, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Galatians 5:16, Ephesians 6:12, Philippians 4:13, Colossians 3:2, 2 Timothy 2:3-4, James 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8, 1 John 5:4

Topics: "Overcoming Sin", "Spiritual Warfare"

Description

Watchman Nee emphasizes the Christian life as a spiritual warfare, focusing on the necessity of understanding the distinction between the spirit, soul, and body. He highlights the importance of the cross of Jesus as central to overcoming sin, the world, and the devil. The sermon encourages believers to engage in spiritual cultivation through prayer, faith, and the application of biblical teachings, particularly from Romans 6. Nee asserts that true victory in the Christian life comes from recognizing and differentiating the spiritual from the self. This message serves as a guide for all Christians seeking to deepen their spiritual walk and effectively combat spiritual challenges.

Transcript

The contents of this book were published in June 1927. The original Chinese title was, literally translated, The Details of Spiritual Cultivation. The present English title was provided by the author himself on the title page of that book. The original book was composed partly of messages translated from English by Brother Watchman Nee and partly of messages written by him in the years prior to 1927. Some of the chapters first appeared in the early issues of The Present Testimony magazine in 1923. The following is an announcement that appeared in the March 1927 issue (No. 15) of The Christian magazine. It states the nature of the book:

A clear book on guiding man to a pathway of spiritual edification; a required reading for all those who desire to overcome sin, the world, and the devil. The whole book is divided into eighteen chapters, with three hundred pages and over a hundred thousand words. From its beginning to its end, it has the cross of the Lord Jesus as the center. This book pays special attention to the teaching of Romans 6. It details the way to differentiate the spiritual part from the self in our life. There are also clear teachings concerning the way to pray, to overcome the devil, and to engage in spiritual works. This book should not only be read but also studied by all God's children. All those who buy this book will continue to receive fresh light, even if they read it once every month.

The book was published by the Bible Truth Depot, P.O. Box 323, Shanghai (also known as the Shanghai Gospel Bookroom) and sold for forty-five cents paperbound and seventy-five cents clothbound. The following is the table of contents of the original book's nineteen chapters together with the author of each chapter.

- (1) Back to the Cross!--Charles H. Usher
- (2) The Distinction between the Spirit, the Soul, and the Body--Watchman Nee
- (3) The Flesh--Watchman Nee
- (4) The Soul-life--Watchman Nee
- (5) How to Walk by the Spirit--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (6) Fact, Faith, and Experience--Watchman Nee
- (7) Living by Faith--Anonymous
- (8) How to Seek After God's Will--Watchman Nee
- (9) Walking in the Will of God--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (10) More than Conquerors--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (11) Liberty through the Cross --Gordon Watts
- (12) The Cross Destroying the Serpent--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (13) Translated out of the Power of Darkness--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (14) The Prayer That Opposes Satan--Watchman Nee
- (15) Prayer A Divine Necessity--Evan Roberts
- (16) The Chief Purpose of Prayer--S.D. Gordon
- (17) The Tempter and the Tempted--Watchman Nee
- (18) How to Bind the Strong Man--Jessie Penn-Lewis
- (19) Four Planes of Spiritual Life--Jessie Penn-Lewis

Some of the topics covered in the book were repeated again in *The Spiritual Man*. As such, this book may be considered the predecessor of *The Spiritual Man*.

In this volume we have included in the text the chapters that were written by Watchman Nee, i.e., chapters two, three, four, six, eight, fourteen, and seventeen. We have also included chapter seven by an anonymous writer and chapter eleven, which is attributed to Gordon Watts but is significantly different from Rev. Watt's article. These chapters occupied over sixty percent of the original book. We have rearranged the original chapter numbers to the order of the present volume. In the Appendices, we have provided the original English articles which Watchman Nee translated and excerpted from.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/watchman-nee/the-christian-life-and-warfare/>

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