INTRODUCTION:
1. It is God's will that we as His children be blessed both physically and spiritually - Ephesians 1:3.
2. However, as we examine our lives we often see that for one reason or the other we are not blessed spiritually as we should be.
   A. When this happens the first thing that many people do is to blame God rather than taking the blame themselves.
      1. The reason for this is when we accept the responsibility for the lack of spiritual blessings in our lives we may reveal either sin in our lives or a blockade somewhere that we have either placed or allowed to be placed between ourselves and these blessings.
3. In view of this we want to consider the subject of Blockades to Spiritual Blessings.
   A. As we do so we might recognize some in our lives, and be desirous to remove them, so that we might be blessed as God wants us to be blessed.

BODY:
1. SELFISHNESS IS A BLOCKADE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
   B. Individuals who are selfish show a lack of love for those around them - 1 John 3:17.
   C. And then of course the law of sowing and reaping is applicable here - Galatians 6:7, 8.
2. PRAYERLESSNESS IS A BLOCKADE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS.
   A. Since all spiritual blessings come from God, if we never take time to speak to him, and petition Him to bless our efforts, how do we expect to obtain them?
      1. We have a loving Father who desires to bless us, but we also have a Father who desires to hear from us concerning these blessings - Matthew 7:7.
   B. Prayerless people are also disobedient people.
      A. And because of our failure to ask we will not receive these blessings - James 4:2.
   C. Jeremiah indicated that prayerless people will not prosper - Jeremiah 10:21.
   D. Many people set blockades of prayerlessness between themselves and spiritual blessings.
      A. If we are not being blessed as God would have us to be lets look at our prayer life.
3. WORLDLINESS IS A BLOCKADE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
   A. Whether we want to admit it or not, worldliness reveals the inward life of man - 1 John 2:15.
      1. John is saying the love of the Father is not in the person who loves the world, because no man can serve two masters - Matthew 6:24.
   B. Worldliness is a blockade because it does not please God - Romans 8:5-8.
      1. We cannot possibly be worldly minded, and still please God, and receive from
Him spiritual blessings.
C. Worldliness separates man from God - James 4:4.

4. **UNFRUITFULNESS IS A BLOCKADE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**
   A. Unfruitfulness comes from not abiding in Christ - John 15:4-7.
   B. Since all spiritual blessings are in Christ, we cannot expect to be blessed unless we are fruitful.
   C. Unfruitfulness also results in the loss of reward - 1 Corinthians 3:14, 15.

5. **UNFAITHFULNESS IS A BLOCKADE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**
   A. According to Paul, unfaithfulness is sin - Romans 14:23.
   B. Anything that we are doing that is not provoked by faith is sin, and if we are committing sin how can we expect to be spiritually blessed?
      1. Of course this doesn't mean that if we occasionally sin we cannot expect to be blessed, but if we persist to do those things that are done by something other than faith we have no reason to expect spiritual blessings.

**CONCLUSION:**
1. There are numerous blockades that stand between ourselves and the blessings that God wants us to have.
   A. If we desire these blessings, we must do what we can to remove them.