<u>LOVE NEVER FAILS – THE BLESSING OF LOVE</u>

(1) FULFILLS THE LAW

<u>Rom. 13:8</u> Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

Rom. 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

(2) MAKES FAITH WORK

<u>Gal. 5:6</u> For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

<u>1Cor. 13:1</u> Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

<u>1Cor. 13:2</u> And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

<u>1Cor. 13:3</u> And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

(3) PRODUCES PEACE AND ELIMINATES FEAR

<u>1John 4:18</u> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

<u>1John 4:12</u> No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

(4) PRODUCES LOVE FOR GOD

John 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

<u>Eph. 3:17</u> That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

<u>Eph. 3:18</u> May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; <u>Eph. 3:19</u> And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

(16) BRINGS REWARDS IN THIS LIFE

Matt. 5:46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

<u>GAL 6:7-9 – PS 133 – HEB 6:10</u>

(5) REVEALS GOD TO THE WORLD

John 13:35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

<u>2Cor. 3:2</u> Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men.

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

John 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

(6) PROTECTS US FROM SATAN AND HIS WORKS

<u>1John 5:18</u> We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but <u>he that is</u> begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

<u>1John 3:14</u> We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

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<u>1John 1:7</u> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

(7) MAINTAINS GOOD HEALTH AND HEALING

<u>Prov. 4:20</u> My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. <u>Prov. 4:21</u> Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. <u>Prov. 4:22</u> For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Prov. 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

<u>Prov. 3:7</u> Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. <u>Prov. 3:8</u> It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

<u>Prov. 16:24</u> Pleasant words *are as* an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones

<u>Prov. 8:13</u> The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

<u>PROV 18:20-21 - PROV 15:4 - 1 PET 3:10 - JAMES 3:6 - JAMES 3:16</u>

RESULTS OF STRIFE, UNFORGIVENESS AND BITTERNESS

(1) OPEN DOOR TO SATAN

James 3:16 For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.

<u>2Tim. 2:16</u> But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

2Tim. 2:17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

<u>1John 3:15</u> Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

Matt. 18:34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

Matt. 18:35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

(2) KEEPS US IN DARKNESS

<u>1John 2:11</u> But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

<u>Col. 1:13</u> Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

<u>James 3:16</u> For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.

James 2:13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

(3) WE BECOME WHAT WE JUDGE

Matt. 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Matt. 7:2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

<u>Rom. 2:1</u> Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

Psa. 15:1 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

Psa. 15:2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

<u>Psa. 15:3</u> He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

(HOW TO KNOW IF WE HAVE NOT FORGIVEN ! - LUKE 6:45)

TRAPS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL:

(1) BACKBITING

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(2) JUDGING

Matt. 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Matt. 7:2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

<u>JAMES 4:11 (NAS)</u> Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge *of it*.

<u>Gal. 6:1</u> Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

(3) EVIL TONGUE

James 3:6 And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

<u>1Pet. 3:10</u> For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

(4) TAKING UP AN OFFENCE

<u>Mark 11:25</u> And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. <u>Mark 11:26</u> But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.