



**Character: We All Have One; good or bad.**

A man's (or woman's) character is that which identifies us as who we are: the way we think, the decisions we make, a believer or non-believer in Christ, honest or dishonest, and on and on. Some of my acquaintances over the years have been disappointments from one time or another. However, they may feel the same about my character. I have heard many a time someone speak of another as a "*strange character*" or just a "*character*" (sometimes meaning they were difficult to deal with). The Israelites were a disappointment in their character after leaving Egypt. Consider what the Holy Spirit said about them in Hebrews 3:7-11, **"Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)"**

As professed believers in Christ, our character should be one of the high level. Honest, Trustful, Kindhearted, Loyal, Holy, Patient, Loving, Caring, A God Fearing Believer, are all good traits which should help to make one of good character. Joshua and Caleb had two such characters. They came back with a truthful report - one filled from a positive aspect.

Consider the character of Christ. His humanity was just as true to the aspects of a good character as was His deity. He kept the Law to a jot and to a tittle, never wavering. The Bible is written concerning the actions of the Israelites over a number of years. One of the traits attributed to them was one of being "back sliders" - Not a good trait to have as a part of our character. The three Hebrew children showed forth their good character with the aid of the Holy Spirit in how they withstood Nebuchadnezzar, even after being cast into a burning fiery furnace.

Briefly, how do we maintain a good character before God? Matthew 11:28-30 explains this very thing. Jesus said, **"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are**

**heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”** Maybe we all need to do a little character building in our service to God while we attempt to be more Christ Like! **“Think About IT!”**