

God's Character



*Words
To Find:*
faithful
forgiving
good
gracious
holy
honest
impartial
love
merciful
truthful
wise

Tests of Sanctified Character


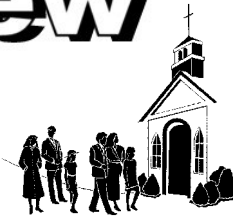
Author Unknown

Some of the acid tests of sanctified character will always be:

1. Can you labor on cheerfully without earthly reward?
2. Can you toil on hopefully without tangible returns?
3. Can you travel the road of frequent criticism without bitterness?

4. Can you sacrifice, pray, and give while others lead the procession and receive the honors? Are you willing to be the soil in which providential events may grow, while others fill the places of leaves and blossoms on the trees of time?

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Good and Bad Character

Bill Brinkworth

A person is exhibiting good character, as given by many biblical examples, when:

☞ He uses the old, biblical standard for morality, wisdom, and good behavior, rather than the constantly changing public opinion.

☞ He sticks to his word, no matter what it costs him. His word, including commitments, means something to him.

☞ He fights temptation, rather than giving into it.

☞ He is more interested in what is right, than what is popular. His principles cannot be altered or compromised by peer pressure.

☞ He puts others' needs in front of his own desires.

☞ He consistently does the same thing, even when no one is looking!

☞ Doing what he thinks is right is more important than any em-



barrassment, public opinion, or any other negative thing it may cost him.

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The Character and Attributes of God

Gleaned from Bible Readings for the Home, 1943

A Christian should be Christ-like. Christ was like His Father. Here is how the Bible describes God's character:

⇒ "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." I John 4:8

⇒ "The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works." Psalms 145:17

⇒ "... and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity ... " Ex. 34:6, 7

⇒ "... art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth." Ps. 86:15

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Good and Bad Character

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☞ He learns from his mistakes, and does not intentionally repeat them.

☞ He has godly, rather than selfish, priorities.

☞ He is as honest with himself as he is with others.

☞ He lets principles, rather than emotions, pride, or opinions, guide him.

☞ He seeks and follows truth above all things; even if it costs or pains him to do so.

A person is not exhibiting good character when:

☞ He changes his stand from biblical principles and morals to match those that oppose what he is voicing. A man of good character will not succumb to mob rule or mob mentality!

☞ He makes choices that he believes are popular. He is more interested in popularity, or what he can get out of a situation than doing the right thing.

☞ He is more interested in instant gratification, rather than what the long-term results will be.

"When you run away from a problem, it mostly likely will follow you the rest of your life; no matter where you go!"

The Character and ...

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⇒ "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant [Keeps His Word] and mercy ..."

*Watch your thoughts, they become words.
Watch your words, for they become actions.
Watch your actions, for they become habits.
Watch your habits, for they become character.*

Deut. 7:9

⇒ "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and

knowledge." Col. 2:3

⇒ "... God is no respecter of persons: [impartial, unprejudiced]" Acts 10:34

⇒ "The LORD is good to all: ..."

⇒

We Remember Their Character

Abel, *had the best sacrifice*
Abraham, *waited for God's promises*

Adam, *the sinner that tainted all mankind*

Daniel, *the brave one*
David, *deep trust in God*
Elijah and Elisha, *relied on God*

Eve, *succumbed to serpent-pressure*

Jacob, *sneaky and an opportunist*

Jesus, *Holy, obedient, righteous ...*

Job, *patient and trusted on God*

Jonah, *disobedient to God*
Joseph, *the chaste and upright*

Judas, *betrayed Jesus*
Moses, *follower of God*
Nehemiah, *man with a burden to continue to worship God's way*
Paul, *determined to do what God commanded*
Satan, *enemy of God*
You! *What best describes your character:*

Honesty Is a Principle

Author Unknown

A slave boy, on the auctioneer's block, was approached by a kind-hearted man who asked him, "If I buy you and take you to a beautiful home, will you be honest and truthful?"

The young man answered, without any hesitation, "Sir, I will be honest and truthful whether you buy me or not!"

Character

Author Unknown

The Greek word from which our word "character" originates refers to a sharp-pointed instrument or engraving tool. This definition can also be applied to our personal "character". It is our character that is the means by which each of us makes an impression on the world; our character labels us.

The instrument itself is not a finished product. It is a mere tool; but like many a fine instrument, character improves with use. Our actions and reactions

temper our disposition and make us stronger for facing future obstacles. Each must forge his own character. Each must be responsible for keeping it in condition. Each must also be responsible for its results.

"Where Are Your Convictions?"

Author Unknown

A certain congressman once voted for the approval of an immoral bill. He knew that he was doing wrong, but he stifled his conscience in obedience to the demands of political expediency.

Not long afterwards, while on a visit to his home, he met an old friend on the street. After they had exchanged greetings, the friend frankly told the congressman how disappointed he was by the leader's vote. "You voted wrong on that bill, John. You must have known it was wrong. How did you happen to vote that way?"

"Well, yes," admitted the embarrassed politician. "I'm afraid it wasn't the right way to vote, but you have no idea what pressure I am under."

"Pressure?" echoed his friend. "Where are your convictions, courage and conscience that can help you bear that pressure?" The question was a searching one. It mercilessly exposed the congressman's lack of character to stand by his convictions.

