***Is There Christian Character in America?***

A German minister once shared his childhood experiences of going to church in Germany during World War II. He described that the people seemed faithful and interested in serving God. But he recounted the days when he heard the train passing by. You see, his church was near the railroad station. During those days, everyone in the church knew that the German army was transporting Jews in boxcars to re-locate them. As the war continued, they seemed to all know that these Jews were not destined to relocation but to die in concentration camps.

He went on to say that he could hear the cries of the Jews wailing out, praying, and asking for help but the church kept on singing, often times the organist playing louder and the people singing louder, trying to drown out the noise. This minister realized that his people, supposedly to be Christians, had lost their character.

While we can point a finger to those in the church at that time, questioning why they did not have compassion or lift a finger to help their fellow man, we could also ask ourselves the same question in America.

There are people crying out every day here in America. They may be living in nice homes, driving nice cars, continuing to seek things to satisfy them but all the time crying out for help. As Christians, we go about our ways, perhaps attending church every week, developing a deaf ear to those crying out, driving past them every week when we see them outside their homes, never asking them to church. They are passing by on a train, just like the Jews, headed for destruction.

My friend, we are quick to point fingers at other people’s faults but have great difficulty realizing that America is not too far off that those in Germany at that time. We are losing our compassion and character. We need to let our light shine, the light of Christ, inviting as many as we can to church, and keep them from destruction. They may not fully be aware of the destruction that lies ahead but it is our responsibility to help them. God came for all, not a select few. He came that none should perish and expects us to help accomplish that. Or are too busy looking after our own best interest?