

## **“But Dad, they say nice things about you publicly.”**

A man named J.C. Jones was living in a small town in Arizona, where he raised his family. He was well-liked by everyone, and somewhat of a role model around town, so much so that the local Kiwanis club used his name in their title: the J.C. Jones Kiwanis Club. In fact, those who were members of that organization were referred to as Jonesians.

During each meeting they said good things about J.C. Jones, and his name brought many members to the club, including J.C. Jones' son.

After J. C. Jones' children were grown, and his wife had passed away, he received a good job offer on the East Coast, with a significant raise in pay, so he moved away. But his son continued his membership in the club named after his father.

Several years later, someone in that same small town in Arizona, sent J.C. Jones a copy of the Manual of the J.C. Jones Kiwanis Club. To his shock, the Manual accused J.C. Jones of being the worst type of criminal: a liar, a torturer and a murderer. Jones was appalled, and immediately flew back to Arizona to set the Kiwanis club straight. However, the President and the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club were belligerent and contentious with Jones. They said he should be happy because in the meetings they said nice things about Jones publicly. But Jones was horrified that they maligned him so severely in their Manual, a Manual that every new member of the Kiwanis Club had to study before they were accepted into the club.

Jones commanded them to take his name off of the club title, but they replied that his name was good PR for recruiting new members.

Neither the President nor the Board of Directors had any interest in listening to his complaints. In fact, they actually threatened him with bodily harm if he didn't leave.

When Jones flew back to his home, he called his son and told him what happened, and how upsetting it was for him to be falsely maligned by a club named after him. Even though it upset the younger Jones father severely, the son continued to be a member of the club, and have a close association not only with the other members, but with the President and the Board of Directors.

“How do you think that makes me feel,” said the father to his son, “when you continue to be a member, and applaud and promote an organization that is so totally misrepresenting my character - the character of your own father? In their Manual, that every person in the club must study before joining, they call me a liar, a torturer and a murderer, with no evidence whatsoever.”

The son replied to his father, “But, Dad, they say nice things about you publicly. And besides, they are **good people** – and all my friends are there.”

### **A story**

This scenario came to mind when a Christian woman recently said to me, “But even though churches aren’t teaching the right things about God, they are filled with “good people” and besides, all my friends are there.

How does our heavenly Father feel about our association with a group of people who are maligning His character terribly. Even though they don’t admit it, or maybe even don’t fully recognize it, they accuse Jesus Christ of being a Liar (He will NOT be able to do what He said He came to do: “Take Away the SIN of the (whole) world.” John 1:29)

They accuse God of being a torturer (He will torture the unsaved in hellfire either forever, or as long as the deserve), and a murderer (He will DESTROY all those He is unable to save.)

The churches teach that God is omnipotent, and that “nothing is too hard for the Lord”, yet they do not believe that God can win back all those Satan was able to deceive and turn against God.

They believe that Satan will be the Big WINNER in the end, because God will have to Kill all those who do not love Him – all those who Satan deceived, but God will not be able to win them back. And irrespective of the protestations of Christians, the destruction of sinners cannot be blamed on them, because the Bible tells us “ALL is of God. . .” Romans 11:36

When members of Christian churches are asked about hellfire, their response is, “Well, the preachers don’t really preach about that anymore.” When asked, “But that IS the doctrine of the church, isn’t it?” Yes, but preachers don’t preach about it because new members don’t want to hear that.”

How does our heavenly Father feel about us when we support, by our presence, an organization that – in their beliefs - so terribly maligns the character of God in every respect, even though they say “nice things” about God in public. And they use His name for good PR, to attract members, yet the information they use to

teach new members contains scandalously inaccurate and frankly malicious lies about the character of God. How can they be “good people” if they are spreading lies about the true character of God?

How does God feel about all of this?