

## *Spiritual Care Message with Prayer*

### *INSULTS!*

*A few days ago, I was reading a short statement and the writer referred to ‘insulting God.’ I’ve not been able to get away from that. This morning I was sitting on my front porch...a lovely Saturday morning...but the quiet of the scene was disturbed by loud voices across the street as a family argued in hostility...someone walked past with a “bottle”, someone walked past who refused to speak and I was reminded of that word, ‘insult’ ...I thought to myself about how the world ‘insults’ God...these are some of the ways:*

- 1. Ignores the evidence of God’s existence; pretends He is not real or present...does not speak to Him*
- 2. Treats the goodness of God as deserved, as being worthy of*
- 3. Living in His gifts and blessings, as something self-created, capable and needing nothing*
- 4. Defies His rules of law, making self determinations*
- 5. Not believing a word He says, self determining*
- 6. Closing Him out, walking away from, when He wants to make Himself and need visible, personal.*

### *INSULTS TO GOD, THE SOVEREIGN GOD.*

*I read these through several times and then said to our Father: “Can one of your following children like me, like myself, insult you? How would I insult you, Lord?” I read the list again...interesting...the list is the same. The list is the same. THE LIST IS THE SAME! Let me read it through again and more than once today, carefully, and prayerfully.*

*Later, after I had written this short article His Words came to me: ‘Worse, dear child, because I have done such wonderful things for you. You have known my personal ways and we have walked through things together...so this list is even worse for you. However, I am God, the Father, God the provider, God the Good Shepherd, and the center of my being is love and forgiveness. Come to me.’*

***Father, what an affront, what an insult my unbelief is to you. Help my unbelief. Give me the view of myself that you have in your heart and mind so it is clear and visible to me as I kneel in contrition and helplessness before you. Search me, O God, and know my heart and try me and know my ways...I confess my sin is ever before you. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. I acknowledge my need before you as you are the One in whom I live and move and have my being. I am your loved and forgiven child. Deeply grateful,  
My prayer to you, O God. Amen***

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