

## **St. Peter Julian Eymard's Great Retreat of Rome**

February 9 - Second Meditation, p.105

### **DOES GOD LOVE ME?**

The great and only subject! I cannot doubt that God has loved me in the past, and with a privileged love; the proofs of that love are still greater now.

1. Everything I desire is granted me in a wonderful way, even what brings me pleasure.
2. The Providence of God precedes me, accompanies me, and follows me; I see it, I feel it.
3. God draws me more forcefully to life in Him, in a most gentle and compelling manner—most crucifying, too, when I pull away from Him.

All that tells me that God loves me with a very great love. But it is not a tender love; why is that? It is my fault, for in the past I was afraid of the tenderness of God lest I be obliged to follow Him in His sacrifices, in a state that I dreaded. It is my fault, it is because my mind is too active and my heart not enough so in the contemplation of active mental prayer.

Then, it is a blessing that God's love be not tender towards me just now; I would stop right there, whereas I must forge ahead towards a life of death to self.

My God! How difficult it is for me to think of God when I am not taken up with God, when I am attending to my neighbor or to some business or other!