



# Trinity's Desert Voice

*"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus."*

*(Romans 15:5)*

## Getting Perspective

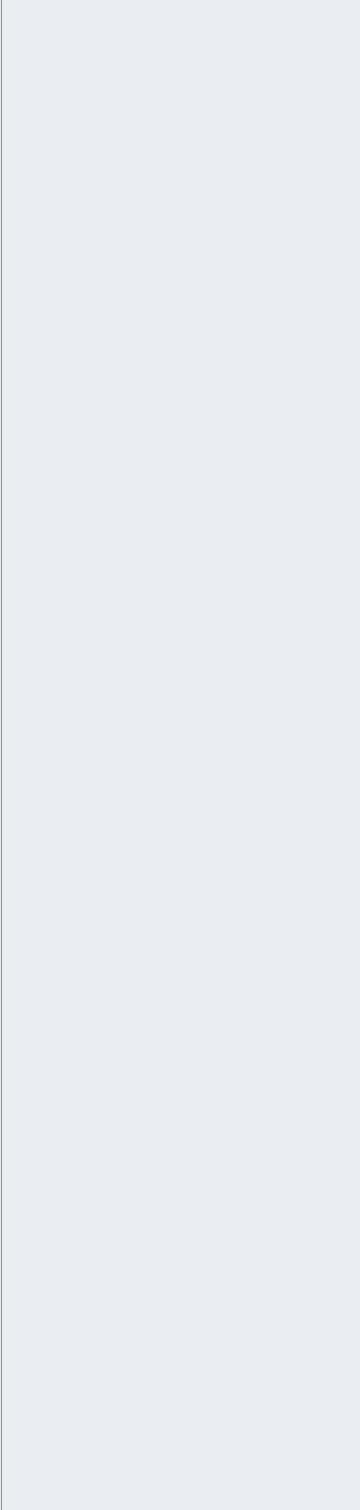
Back in school, I learned an important lesson about perspective playing dodge-ball. In that game, two teams would line up on either side of the gym. Several basketball sized rubber balls would be tossed onto the floor to be scrambled up and thrown by the opposing players at each other. If a player was hit, he was "out" and had to leave the game. I remember how eventually a flurry of balls would rush headlong in my direction. I would try to helplessly to dodge, but as I moved one way, a rush of balls pummeled me from that very direction. I was positively out. The lesson: Even though I truly enjoyed playing the game, I know that ultimately I am not invincible.

We are not invincible. In this Information Age we realize this more and more. News of awful crimes, terror's horror and immoral choices daily flood our sight, hearing and conscience. Bombarded by such reality, we long for the gift of perspective. We desire clarity on what events mean and where they are heading. Such a gift would help us to see things arranged in proper position and inspire hope even in seemingly hopeless circumstances.

Biblical perspective teaches us that sin wrecks havoc with every aspect of our lives. Left on our own, we can never rise to victory over our fears and regrets.

But God has personally blessed us with a refreshing and victorious perspective and reality. He has stepped into the game of life for us. Through the suffering, death and resurrection of His own Son, Jesus Christ, He brings forgiveness of our sin, shame and guilt.

The clarity of God's victory continues to encourage us. Titus 2:11-14 declares, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'No' to



ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.”

May God’s victorious grace not only give us perspective by faith, but also victorious joy and hope.

Pastor Smith