

# *GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST*

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

## *Seven Paradoxes of Christianity*

TEXT – Deuteronomy 29:29

Introduction: Have you ever heard of a paradox? A paradox is a seemingly contradictory statement that seems both absurd and impossible. People of the world reject Christianity because it teaches contrary to popular thinking, ordinary thinking. There are at least seven paradoxes that I see in Christianity. Let's talk about these strange teachings . . . . .

Discussion:

*I. You Have To DIE To LIVE*

**I Corinthians 15:36**

**John 12:23-24**

**Romans 5:6-8**

**II Timothy 2:11**

**Galatians 2:20**

**Colossians 3:3**

*II. You Have To LOSE To WIN*

**I Corinthians 2:7-8**

**Mark 15:29-32**

**Mark 8:34-35**

**John 12:25**

*III. You Have To SERVE To REIGN*

**Philippians 2:4-11**

**Matthew 20:27-28**

**Matthew 25:31-40**

**Mark 10:44-45**

*IV. You Have To GIVE To RECEIVE*

**Matthew 6:19-21**

**Mark 10:17-27**

**Matthew 19:29**

**Luke 14:33**

*V. You Have To Be HUMBLE To Be EXALTED*

**Luke 14:7-11**

**James 4:8-10**

**I Peter 5:6**

**John 1:14**

*VI. You Have To Become A CHILD To Show MATURITY*

**Matthew 18:2-14**

**Mark 10:14-15**

**I Corinthians 13:12**

**Galatians 3:1**

**Matthew 23:2-39**

*VII. You Have To Take The HARD Road To Receive The EASY Reward*

**Matthew 7:13-14**

**Ephesians 2:8**

**John 3:16**

**II Peter 1:6**

**II Timothy 3:10-12**

**II Timothy 4:5-8**

Conclusion: All seven of these paradoxes lead us up to one final thought. Only God knows what's best for our lives. WE HAVE TO COMPLETELY DEPEND UPON HIM! Who's afraid of a paradox here and there? God does His best work when we are confused. We cannot comprehend the mind of God, but we can submit to His ways! Are you willing to live this Christian life? Are you willing to put your faith and trust in the Lord? He is waiting to walk with you!