

Paradox = a statement that is seemingly contradictory or opposed to common sense and yet is true.

The month of September itself is a paradox. In the northern hemisphere, it's the first month of Fall. In the southern hemisphere, it's the first month of Spring.

"September" is from a Latin word meaning "seven" -- yet it is <u>not</u> the 7th month on our yearly calendar. The year on the old Roman calendar system began in March and so September was the 7th month. When Roman adopted the new Roman calendar (new as in 153BC), the new year started in January and so September became the 9th month.

September originally had 28 days. But when the Julian calendar was officially adopted by the Romans in 46BC, 10 days were added to the year and September became 39 days in length.

Even though September is not really considered a noteworthy or popular month, a great number of famous things happened in September. The 1st Continental Congress met in Sept. 1774, charting our way towards the American Revolution. In Sept. 1862 President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. In Sept. 1939 Hitler invaded Poland, marking the beginning of WW2. And of course in Sept. 2001, our country was severely impacted by Islamic terrorists, with highjacked planes targeting the Twin Tower in NY and the Pentagon, causing over 3,000 lost lives and \$10 billion in damages.

Scripture is loaded with paradoxes, such as:

*God exalts the humble and humbles the exalted (1Pt.5:6 James 4:10 Mt.5:5)

*The first shall be last and the last shall be first (Mrk.9:35 Mt.19:30 Lk.14:8-11)

*When we are weak then we are strong (2Cor.12:9-10 2Cor.13:4 2Cor.4:7-11)

Over the next few Sundays, we will cover one of the greatest paradoxes in Scripture -- that an innocent Jesus, the divine Son of God, could die a physical death and be raised to physical life again -- all so that we could obtain spiritual, eternal life and be restored to a personal relationship with God Himself. Talk about a paradox!!!

Don't miss the next few weeks as we look at the arrest, trials, mistreatment, death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus!

Pastor Wade

NOTE: Please notice the schedule below of Antonio (TJ) Arango visiting with the FBCA family regarding serving as our Associate Pastor of Students. Be in earnest prayer for this selection!



