



## Contact Email for August 2018

I find it amazing that despite the changes that have occurred over the past several thousand years, socially nothing much has changed; with some of the best commentaries on life today coming from the Greek and Roman philosophers, a hundred or more B.C. or other in the now distant past.

I was going to start this article with one that came up on my screen a week or so ago. I can remember the quote, but at the moment, I can't find who originally said it, though I am sure it was one of the Greeks. The quote was, "People go into politics for one of two reasons; to get revenge on someone or for what they can get out of it." That certainly rings bells today.

### **From Plato (427 to 347 BCE) we have these pearls of wisdom:**

"We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light."

"The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men."

"Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, while bad people will find a way around the laws."

"Ignorance, the root and stem of every evil."

"If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things."

"In politics we presume that everyone who knows how to get votes knows how to administer a city or a state. When we are ill... we do not for the handsomest physician, or the most eloquent one."

"Knowledge without justice ought to be called cunning rather than wisdom."

### **From Aristotle (c384 - c322 BCE):**

"Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing."  
Aristotle

"Teenagers these days are out of control. They eat like pigs, they are disrespectful of adults, they interrupt and contradict their parents, and they terrorize their teachers." Aristotle

"It is our choice of good or evil that determines our character, not our opinion about good or evil."  
Aristotle

And one relatively modern one for Luck. **John Stuart Mill, Sociologist, (1806-1873)**

"Conservatives are not necessarily stupid, but most stupid people are conservatives."

*Alan Scott, Continuing Education Officer*