



PLATO & SOCRATES

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

"He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance" (Luke 3:3).

As the ancient philosopher Socrates told us (through his student Plato), "the unexamined life is not worth living." So, Philosophy means "love of wisdom," and the philosopher is concerned with seeking the truth. We who follow Jesus can claim his words, that He is the Truth (the truth of God and the only Truth that really ultimately matters).

After the first lecture in a college philosophy course, the professor asked for questions. "What is the difference between learning and wisdom?" a student asked. "Learning," said the professor, is obtained by attending lectures given by others or reading books others have written. Wisdom is obtained by reading the book that is you -- and that is never an easy task, as every minute of the day brings a revised edition of that volume."

Luke's words state that, "The Word of God" came to John the Baptist "in the wilderness." And how "he went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance" (Lk. 3:2-3).

John's mission, Luke tells us, was described centuries earlier by the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah as "a voice crying in the wilderness" (Lk. 3:4).

The voice crying in the wilderness, the voice proclaiming a Baptism of repentance which takes a deep dive into understanding the missteps, the evil deeds, and sins that we have done. A first part of moving into the Baptism that Jesus offers of both repentance but also New Life.

It is in Jesus our Truth that we find Wisdom the true Hope, for our lives day by day, then on into our future even to eternity.

In your Hope, Jesus.

Roger