**2022 02 20 ‘It’s COMPLEX’**

Luke 6:27-38. Genesis 45:3,11,15.

Psalm 37:1-11. 1 Corinthians 5:35-50.

There is a simplicity in complexity. A series of individual things or happenings which led to a truth greater than the individual. Like a flow diagram which starts at the desired outcome or the finished product and works backward. The chart contains all the individual actions and materials and the times frame and areas of responsibility for each part of the construction or journey.

I thought that I would consider each of the readings and attempt to draw out some points and see where they lead us.

**In Luke 6:27-38.**

Our Lord Jesus speaks to us what I believe is a test, or a proof of our growing and living in His gracefulness and purity – the living of having been ‘born again’ and filled with or growing in God’s Presence being in us. Jesus showed this when he cried out from the cross of death “Father forgive them because they do not know what they are doing.” The same beauty was seen in Stephen when, as people threw rocks at him and he was dying – “ Lord forgive them ………..”.

Our attitude to others matters. Gods’ expression of loving us despite our paleness in following Him.

V46 following Gods example

V37,38 God gives abundantly – like shopkeeper shaking the packet to fit more in – not like some Tim Tams we brought the other day where a they had engineered the packaging to separate the biscuits further apart and this resulted in less biscuits per package. There are no vacant spaces in God’s love for and to us unless we create them.

**Genesis 45:3,11,15.**

Joseph cared for father and brothers even though the brothers had treated him very badly. The beauty of it is that even though Rueben tried initially to rescue him from thee pit it was Judah that pleaded to be the stand in for Benjamin – our lord is described as coming from the tribe of Judah – Jesus took our place to rescue us from slavery to ourselves and eternal separation from God.

Whatever Josephs initial feelings were when he was sold into slavery he knew now that God had sent him ahead of the family into Egypt to be able to rescue them from famine when the time came. God had also given him the controversial dreams when he was a teen ager – even though they seemed impossible both in culture and family standing and his being sold as a slave he somehow had them and knew that God would bring them to pass.

When God did bring them to pass he did not seek revenge but after testing his brothers he treated them with love. There was reconciliation – as Jesus has brought reconciliation between us and God our creator. God is good and to be trusted.

Do we have any dreams that we know are from God – they may seem to be lost but do not give them up – our place may have been to start them up – to be part of one step and our descendants or others will complete the vision – but be faithful to the vision and do not be sad or depressed but trust God not what we see.

Cambodia. My dream?

**Psalm 37:1-11,39,40**

There is an order in this Psalm in that it starts by telling us ‘not to fret – it leads to evil.

Instead remember and draw into our trust in God.

This will bring us to behaving in love to others and

A delight in God will grow.

And our hearts desire will come to us –

And we will realise that what delights us in the awareness of God’s presence and the inner quietness and stillness that GOD BRINGS.

*There starts to be a flow, connections developing – a journey – the journey of our lives and growing in trust in God. I hear a talk where the speaker asked us to imagine that live is a journey in a car – who is in the car with us – where is everyone sitting – who is in the driver’s seat – where is Jesus sitting – are we a back seat driver? Or a trusting passenger sitting next to Jesus. I remember when I was very young my uncle would sit me on his knee and I would steer the car while he rolled a cigarette.*

**1 Corinthians 15:35-38. 42-50**

Is it complex or is it clearly stated and straight forward?

Is it the reality!

We are spiritual people in earthly bodies – the fullness of what God intends us to be is in that fertilised seed – how does it grow – how is it nurtured to we come to full maturity.

V35-45. Our destination – the point of the flow diagramme –

A seed, a car journey – where we know the destination – or do not – road signs – other people on their journeys – life for all living things – as we live it comes to an end

V35-41 all growing things start as a seed which contains all the information and resource for the seed to grow into what it is intended to be – grass tree elephant ant human being – each as God has decreed or loved into existence.

So, with the seed of or bodies – whether they are young , old, diseased, whatever – they are all planted in death – same as the grass or the river red gum or the 200-year-old turtle – and me and you – we are planted in death and our soul/spirit? Is reborn in a spiritual/heavenly body.

V42-44 “so it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.”

V48,49 are we people of the dust or people of the spirit?

What is the flow of our lives – where do I sit in the car of ME as I travel on to changing from dust to spirit.

**PRAY**