

FOR AUSTRALIA

Bernard Thorogood - (Blessings and Prayers from Around the World)

This is a broad land, horizons far away
roads that get lost in the distance,
and blue, distant hills.

May the breadth of mind and heart be ours.

This is a hard land,
the soils thin and weathered,
dusty and cracked with drought
or deluged with sudden flood.

May we learn to live with stress.

This land is washed by oceans,
with mighty waves on rocky coasts,
and last tropical tides,
and storms from the frozen south.

Wash our lives with your living water.

And in this land people have been home
for many millennia,
with few possessions but much courage,
with life-sustaining skills
in harmony with all creation.

**May their quiet persistence infect our lives,
so that land and people may together praise you,
God of creation.**

