

Eulogy to Mervyn Smith deceased February 25<sup>th</sup> 2013, South Hedland, Western Australia. Born October 21<sup>st</sup> 1966, Roebourne, Western Australia.

What can I say about our friend and brother, except, "This indeed was a prophet!" A man who lived the full life experiences of a true Pilbara Marlpa Man – from a station kid, to a hostel school boy, a street kid, a drinker, a sportsman, a stockman, a fully initiated Law man, a father and a loving son to Gladys Tucker and a faithful partner to Beverley Smith. Above all this, a born again Christian whose prayer was not for himself, but that others may share his faith and live a healthy lifestyle. He was a man who experienced the suffering and pain of his Saviour and Lord, but like Jesus he withstood it without complaint. Through all his years of dialysis and hospital treatment his faith remained strong, an inspiration to all who knew him. To me he was a dear friend, a confidant, an advisor, an intellectual, a mentor, a man who towered above us all, until he stood close to the God he served with all his heart. He has made the world a better place. Now he has gone to a far better place and the reward that awaits him. God bless you Mararra! From Bill Day

Romans 8:14-17

### **Joy of the Redeemed**

Isaiah 35

The desert and the parched land will be glad;  
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.  
Like the crocus,<sup>2</sup> it will burst into bloom;  
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.  
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;  
they will see the glory of the LORD,  
the splendor of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the feeble hands,  
steady the knees that give way;  
<sup>4</sup> say to those with fearful hearts,  
"Be strong, do not fear;  
your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;  
with divine retribution  
he will come to save you."

<sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

<sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
and the mute tongue shout for joy.  
Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.  
In the haunts where jackals once lay,  
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

<sup>8</sup> And a highway will be there;  
it will be called the Way of Holiness;  
it will be for those who walk on that Way.  
The unclean will not journey on it;  
wicked fools will not go about on it.

<sup>9</sup> No lion will be there,

nor any ravenous beast;  
they will not be found there.  
But only the redeemed will walk there,  
<sup>10</sup> and those the LORD has rescued will return.  
They will enter Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy will crown their heads.  
Gladness and joy will overtake them,  
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.