

**THE GIFT OF DIFFERENCE**  
**Effenus Henderson**

I sit on a soaring plane with clouds below me  
As sunlight penetrates my window from high above  
I witness the radiating wonder of God's graciousness  
Still encapsulated in his boundless love.

When his omnipotent wings of change lift you  
To heights you thought you'd never know  
Just remember that the creator  
Has favored and rewarded you  
With gifts he continues to gracefully bestow.

They are not to be taken lightly  
Nor to be consumed with arrogance and greed  
They are to be used to spread love universally  
In a time of endless human need.

His gifts are not the tangible things  
Like presents under a Christmas tree,  
But rather gifts of talent, time and attitude  
Helping another set their spirits free.

Paul spoke of these diverse gifts  
To listeners a very long time ago.  
He shared his blessed insights and knowledge  
Of the powerful gift God can set aglow.

Yes the clouds of hopelessness and despair are below me  
Having ascended to a place of clarity of thought  
Life's lessons have taught me to love unconditionally  
Having been molded by what the Creator wrought

His sunlight frames the ultimate target  
When personal fog and intolerant clouds finally drift away  
It is a glorious moment to behold his majesty  
When we completely understand his way.

So cherish your unique gift  
Remain humbled by his caring way  
And to the challenge gallantly rise,  
You see freedom is calling  
And we cannot continue to delay.

December 30, 2011