

Flying Home From The Nelson Mandela Inauguration

This poem was reprinted as Bishop James again returned from South Africa
Celebrating the Founding of African Methodism.

**Indelible images of South Africa's liberation' of the triumph of
Political righteousness in our time;**

**And before our eyes ~ and in our ears ~ and in our hearts ~ and
In our spirits:**

**Of Nelson Mandela, the Soaring Symbol, the Shining Son, the
Prepared Personal, the People's Preference, the Able Advocate,
The ANC Angle, the Magnificent Manifestation, the Momentous
Man!**

**Dignity beyond dimension; Courage beyond contention;
Readiness to rule; smarts not learned in school;
Support from strange sources, facilitated from foreign Forces.
Tears of joy and gladness, dilute earlier thoughts of sadness;**

**Victory yell singing from poorly housed peoples,
Church bells ringing from Holy house steeples.
A moment in time, with justice high-faluting,
When the leaders of the earth came bowing and saluting;
GREAT SOUTH AFRICA AT LAST IS FREE!**

**Now the American Delegation sent by the Clinton Administration,
Led by Vice President and Mrs. Gore, First Lady, Hilary and many
more,**

**Step aboard that star-striped steel bird,
Let the mighty jet engines under her wings be heard,
Lift her eagle-crested cabin toward this salutary sky,
*"South Africa, we are leaving, but we do not say,***

Goodbye."



Bishop Frederick Calhoun James – May, 1994

Preparing to return from the Nelson Mandela Inauguration aboard Air Force II



L-R: Honorable Ernie Green; Senate Leader Paul Simons; Secretary Ron Brown; General Colin Powell; Bishop F.C. James; Honorable Jesse Jackson; former Governor Lowell Weicker; Congresswomen Maxine Waters; Ambassador William Gray; Congressman John Lewis; Superstar Quincy Jones.

Bishop F.C. James aboard Air Force II with Friends

