

~~They were passionate & faithful~~  
~~& all that they did & those that they helped~~  
~~putting their all to anything they~~  
~~did. They were compassionate & <sup>needed</sup>~~

~~and God~~

They were uplifting, faithful & fearful  
of God, believing it was by his  
mercy & power alone that they  
survived & became true pioneer  
women.

They were <sup>black</sup> women, yes they were ~

They were my <sup>great</sup> grandmothers,  
grandmothers, great aunts & cousins,

They are <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>aunts</sup> ~~mothers~~, my sisters, My mother,

~~I am <sup>in black</sup> ~~an~~ pioneer women.~~

It is because of  
that I am here

I'm honored to be a descendent of  
these fine black pioneer women ~ I've been  
blessed by being endowed with all  
of these <sup>some</sup> characteristics ~ In filling writing &  
recording & telling the stories the histories of  
these fine ~~my~~ black pioneer ~~women~~ ~ My family