

Stunning NASA Christmas Message Still Resonates 56 Years After Apollo 8

In December 1968, NASA launched the first manned mission to the moon. No one, not even the astronauts aboard, was certain that they'd be able to return safely. Their journey, the most hazardous and dangerous ever embarked upon, took them to the boundaries of another world, and, even more remarkably, brought peace to their own.

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It was shortly after 5:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve that something remarkable happened. After spotting the barren, far side of the moon for the first time, the astronauts onboard captured a photo that has since become known as "Earthrise." For all the turmoil, tragedy and political tumult the world had experienced during 1968, this iconic, indelible image captured the beauty and fragility of our home planet.

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And then, with more than one billion people watching around the world on television, the astronauts delivered a message to the largest audience in human history. It was a sentiment for all mankind and one straight from the pages of the Bible. As the nation waited in prayerful consideration, astronauts Frank Borman, Jim Lovell and Bill Anders spoke the following words:

*In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.
And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the*

face of the waters.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

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Megachurch Pastor Launches AI App for Prayer

Megachurch Pastor Ron Carpenter has released a preview of a brand-new app that could change everything relating to the power of prayer.

Carpenter is known for his role as the pastor of Redemption Church in Greenville, South Carolina, and San Jose, California. Now, Carpenter is taking the power of prayer for his congregants into an entirely new realm: the world of artificial intelligence.

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The Google Play Store description of the app says: “The Ron Carpenter Ministries Advanced Archive app is a unique place where people from every background, race and walk of life come together in a place of community and purpose. This resource is dedicated to seeing people’s lives changed and leaders equipped. Get ready to change your mindset, master your

feelings, and overcome life's pressures. Transcend traditional time and access barriers by enabling 1-on-1 personalized interactions not possible before now."

In a video posted online by Protestia, Carpenter can be seen using the app to show audiences how it works.

"OK, I'd love to have my own personal pastor," Carpenter says in the video. "So, I hit the Ron Carpenter Ministries archive, and I call Pastor Ron."

Megachurch pastor creates an app with an A.I. version of himself, so congregants can have 'personalized, 1-on-1 interactions' with "him" 24/7 for the low fee of just \$49

Check out this horror show below.

– Protestia (@Protestia) December 16, 2024

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Carpenter used the feature to give the AI-generated pastor an example of a prayer request need for someone who is not feeling well. In response to the prayer request, the AI-generated Pastor Ron gave a brief introduction followed by a prayer for healing.

"Heavenly Father, I thank You that You know us and hear us right now. I lift up my friend to You. I ask for Your healing to be upon them," the AI Pastor Ron says.

According to Christian Post, the new feature will cost users \$49 for the monthly plan to message and chat with the AI bot as frequently as they desire.

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Do We Actually Know Where Christ Was Born?

During the Christmas season, many Christians from around the world make a pilgrimage to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus Christ.

These Christmas visitors flock to the Church of the Nativity, which is regarded by some as the traditional site of the birth of Jesus. But after 2,000 years, do we really know where Jesus was born?

The Church of the Nativity is one of the oldest churches in the world. And Prof. Qustandi Shomali of Bethlehem University argues, "This is the place where Jesus Christ was born."

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"The Church of the Nativity was built over this place in 326 when Emperor Constantine decided to declare Christianity as the official religion of the Roman Empire," Shomali said. "Since then, pilgrims from all around the world started coming to Bethlehem to visit this place. The place where Christianity started."



To get your copy of "Superbook, The First Christmas," visit .

Inside the church, the original columns from the 4th Century still stand. Constantine's mother, Queen Helena, built the church. But why would she build it here?

"We do know that the identification of the site where Jesus was born already traditionally goes back to the middle of the first century at least," Shomali said.

In the first century, the Roman emperor Hadrian destroyed the town of Bethlehem. After he destroyed the town, Hadrian built a temple and planted a grove of trees over the site where Christian pilgrims had come to honor the place where Jesus was born.

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"Around what was left of the house which was only a cave where the virgin gave birth to the Child," said Stephen Pfann of the University of the Holy Land. "People remembered this. People within 15 years were already going back to that site to visit it."

"In fact, this temple instead of destroying the place, preserved the place," Shomali added.

Jerome wrote in 396 A.D., "Even amongst those who are strangers to the faith it is known that inside that grotto he who is adored and glorified by the Christians was born."

Through the centuries, the church itself went through a number of changes, but it is still one of the few churches in the Holy Land that was never completely destroyed.

The main entrance into the Church of the Nativity is called the Door of Humility because you have to bend to get inside the church. It was originally built by the crusaders and then

altered by the Ottomans in order to keep mounted horsemen out of the church.

Fourteen hundred years after Queen Helena built the church, Christian pilgrims still come from around the world. Many record their personal pilgrimage both inside and outside the church. The central place lays inside the grotto. Many believe it's the very cave where Jesus was born. A star marks the exact location.

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