



## APOLLO 8

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE CEREMONY

12:00 NOON  
MAY 5, 1969

RICE HOTEL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

# Program

INVOCATION

Monsignor Anton Frank  
Pastor, Annunciation Church

## LUNCHEON

PRESIDING

Honorable Granville W. Elder  
Postmaster of Houston

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mr. Chris Robinson  
Mrs. Thelma Lindsay  
Mrs. Diane Tobola

GREETING

Honorable W. Marvin Hurley  
Executive Vice President, Houston  
Chamber of Commerce and Chairman  
NIMS Mail Users Council

INTRODUCTIONS

CONGRESSMAN BOB CASEY  
CONGRESSMAN BOB ECKHARDT  
ASTRONAUTS, OTHER  
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Postmaster Elder

REMARKS

Dr. Robert R. Gilruth  
Director, NASA  
Manned Spacecraft Center

REMARKS

Honorable Ralph W. Yarborough  
United States Senator

REMARKS AND  
INTRODUCTION OF THE  
POSTMASTER GENERAL

Honorable George Bush, M. C.  
7th Congressional District

ADDRESS AND  
PRESENTATIONS

Honorable Winton M. Blount  
Postmaster General of the United States

BENEDICTION

Rabbi Hyman Judah Schachtel  
Congregation Beth Israel



The goals of the Apollo program are to land American explorers on the moon and bring them safely back to earth, to establish the technology required to meet other National interests in space, and to achieve for the United States pre-eminence in space. These objectives were enhanced greatly by the flight of the Apollo 8 spacecraft, manned by Col. Frank Borman, USAF, Capt. James A. Lovell, USN, and Lt. Col. William A. Anders, USAF, from lift off at 6:51 a. m. CST, December 21, 1968 until splash down at 10:51 CST on December 27, 1968.

The words "In the beginning God . . ." were spoken by a crew member of the Apollo 8 spacecraft when he read from the Book of Genesis during the course of the historic flight orbiting the moon. This reading, while not a part of the flight plan, has become closely associated with the flight in the public mind.

Leonard E. Buckley of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing based his design of the stamp on a photograph supplied by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in which the moon, in the foreground of the stamp, is approximately 780 kilometers from the spacecraft. To the top of the stamp is half an Earth, the rest in darkness, with the sunset terminator bisecting Africa.



# Genesis

**I**N the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 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.

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

4 And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 ¶ And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 ¶ And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry *land* Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that *it was* good.

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, *and* herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed *was* in itself, after his kind: and God saw that *it was* good.

13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

## *Sun, Moon and Stars Are Created*

14 ¶ And God said. Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: *he made* the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth.

18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that *it was* good.