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THE ORIGINS OF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT IN ISRAEL: THE ACCOUNT OF PROPHET ELIJAH

**Abstract**

This paper seeks to provide evidence that further demonstrates the historical significance of Israel in astronautics and human space flight. While the Russian Yuri Gagarin is formally recognised as the first man in space, there is arguable evidence to show that an Israeli, Elijah the Tishbite who lived in the 9th century BC (before Christ) actually ascended to space without a return. This paper will show that the classic account of this event as recorded in the Bible, which originated in Israel, actually draws similar and scientific parallels with modern spaceflight systems and technologies. A systematic and scientific comparison will be made between the ancient account and current developments in order to provide useful information and develop valid research questions on the ancient origins of human spaceflight and the critical role played by Israel