INTRO: We live in a time known as the space age. We hear much about space travel. This country & others have sent satellites into space to orbit the earth, men have walked on the moon, devices have been sent into space to photograph the planets & transmit pictures back to the earth.

A few years ago, Mr. Frank Winter, assistant curator for launch vehicles in the Space & Exploration Dept. of the Smithsonian Institute made known that the first manned rocket flight ever recorded took place in 1633. Hasan Celebi blasted off in a 90 foot rocket, soared 900 feet into the air, jumped & floated down to sea in a glider, then swam safely to shore.

Now, don't argue that if God had wanted men in space He would have put them there. The same arguments were made against the airplane & the submarine. The Bible does not tell us what the future holds with regard to space travel--but it does tell of an important Visitor from another world.

I. JESUS CAME TO EARTH FROM HEAVEN.
   A. Jesus existed in heaven with the Father before the earth ever came into existence. John 1:1-3, 14.
   
   READ PHIL. 2:5-11.
   
   B. He came to earth in a most unusual way--not in a space ship but via the virgin birth.
   
   1. Hinted at in Gen. 3:15 (at least 4,000 B.C.)
   2. Plainly foretold in Isa. 7:14 (about 730 B.C.)
   3. Factually recorded in MT 1:18-21 & LK 1:34-35

   C. He came in reality. Not science fiction. Josephus, Tacitus
   D. Numerous messages had been sent foretelling His arrival.
   
   1. The virgin birth, Isa. 7:14.
   2. In Bethlehem, Micah 5:2
   3. During the days of the Roman Empire, Dan. 2:44

   READ ACTS 3:22-24
But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. (Gal. 4:4).

E. He came as a Friend, not a foe. JN 3:16; Rom 5:8; JN 15:13-14; LK 19:10; JN 10:10

F. After He had accomplished all He came to earth to do, He returned to heaven. Acts 1:9-11.

1. Not from Cape Canaveral, but from Bethany, a little village on the outskirts of Jerusalem, LK 24:50

2. Not in a space craft, but in His resurrected body.

3. No TV, no press conference--but seen by reliable eye witnesses who died rather than deny what they had seen & heard.

G. He has promised to return for those who faithfully await His return. John 14:1-3.

NOTE: Statements from an eye witness-- READ I JOHN 1:1-4; 3:2

II. A MESSAGE HAS COME TO US FROM ANOTHER WORLD.

A. If scientists should get a message from outer space, the whole world would hear it--everyone would talk about it--almost everyone would be interested in it.

B. Mankind needs to realize that the Bible is a message which came to us from heaven.

READ I PET 1:10-12; 2 PET 1:21; 2 TIM 3:16-17

III. ALL MANKIND WILL BE GOING TO ANOTHER WORLD.

A. The righteous, John 14:1-3.

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens (2 Cor 5:1).

CONCLUSION: If you were going to participate in space travel, there are some things you would definitely do.

1. You would make some preparation. You would want to know proper procedures & dangers to be avoided.

2. You would not likely reason "one rocket is just as good as another." Not necessarily cherish the thought that all your equipment would be provided by the lowest bidder. Psalm 127:1

3. You would certainly do all within your power to keep your communication system open. Isaiah 59:2.

4. You would want to familiarize yourself adequately with your instruction manual & carefully obey its directives.

You are going to another world. Have you made the proper preparation?

Jonestown, TX, April 28, 1968
Springhill, LA, February 14, 1971
KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, August 1, 1971
La Porte, TX, September 28, 1975
Exton, PA, March 18, 1990
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, February 19, 1995
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, December 5, 1999