

**The open heaven over the open tomb.**

**1. The open heaven;**

**2. The open tomb.**

- 1.)a** Many have seen the raised Christ, but no one His resurrection  
No initiative from earth, but all from heaven from God.  
Women went to tomb worrying about the stone, guarded by soldiers  
But it was removed: Angels opened the tomb, opened the door for Christ.  
Christ raised by the Father: Resurrection started in heaven.  
From earthly perspective no hope. Look up to heaven.
- b** Message from God through women to disciples. Mary: first to whom Jesus appeared.  
Paradise: woman first to sin. Resurrection: women first to bring the message.  
In God's power Jesus defeated death. We must depend on God.  
God makes everything new.  
Women tell disciples, disciples tell the world.  
Church must preach the gospel. Cannot bring change, but just preach the Word.  
The Word brings new life: it is the Spirit Who works.  
If we believe we must stand up for the truth, we go wrong.
- c** Christ has all authority.  
Christ's appearances: to prepare His disciples to go into the world.  
Preach the great news: God accepted the Sacrifice of Christ. Reconciliation.  
Death has no power over Christ. He now gives life!  
Message incomprehensible from earthly perspective.  
Many nowadays have a horizontal worldview. But we live under an open heaven.
- 2.) a.** Christ is God and Man. The second Adam.  
As Man He brought the only sacrifice that could reconcile us with God.  
The way to God's throne is open, because the tomb is open: death conquered.
- b** Resurrection: foreshadowed in Exodus out of Egypt.  
Resurrection sets us free from the house of bondage to sin, and death.  
We live in the freedom as God's children.  
Sabbath Day: now Lord's Day: Day of resurrection. Exodus out of power of hell.
- c** The risen Christ sends out messengers to all the earth.  
Many don't believe it. But the open tomb cannot be denied.  
Not opened by the disciples, but by God!  
Christ rose as victorious King.
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Questions:

1. What does it mean that we live under an open heaven?
2. How does our Christian worldview ('open heaven') change our outlook on life?
3. Why is it not our task to *defend* the truth? Who does?
4. What *is* the task of the Church?
5. How is it visible in your life that you have a new life?