



BREAKING THE JAWS OF DEATH (John 11:25-26)

Introduction: *The death of my father, Earl Harold...*

- I. WE ARE HERE TODAY TO
"THUMB OUR NOSES" AT DEATH
 - A. Why are you here today?
 - B. We are here to stare death in the face
 - C. We are here to celebrate Jesus' victory over death (John 11:25-26)

- II. *THE JAWS OF DEATH* HAVE A GRIP ON ALL OF US
 - A. The amazing TV documentary about "Pit Bulls"... what a dog!
 - B. The Pit Bull's death grip released – only when its jaws are broken
 - C. Death has its deadly grip on you & me... and there's no escape
 - D. The Bible is quite clear about this
(Genesis 2:16-17; Roman 6:23; 3:23; Job 14:14)

- III. EASTER DECLARES CLEARLY:
THE JAWS OF DEATH HAVE BEEN BROKEN
 - A. In John 11, Jesus provides a very personal answer to Job's question: "*If a man dies, will he live again?*"
 - B. Here we find the account of the death of Lazarus, brother of Mary & Martha
 - C. John 11:35 – the shortest verse in the Bible... just two words, but powerful words
 - D. Jesus stared death in the face & broke its ugly jaws!! (John 11:38ff)
 - E. This was the statement of faith by ancient Job as well (Job 19:25)
 - F. These words of Job became one of the most beloved hymns of the Church

Conclusion: Singing the Easter hymn "*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*" with a young widow...

[Jesus has broken the jaws of death!]