

The Evening News

by John Walsh

Anchor enters while his face is being powdered.....cameraman is setting up.....
Before they are totally ready, the production director goes: “Live in 5...4...3...2...1”
During this time, the makeup people are in total panic, but get away before they are on
the air – which is after the following announcement.

The orchestra plays a few notes, and then from off stage: “The Evening News with Mel
Anchor, coming to you from the Jericho Network News”

News Anchor: Welcome to evening news. I’m Mel Anchor. Tonight, we have breaking
news on several fronts.

In the political news, there seems to be continuing conflict between the two
parties. But the Sons of Thunder have now made a surprising move. Some
are calling this “a desperate, all or nothing ‘Hail Mary’ move.” The mother
of James and John has completely ‘thrown caution to the wind’ and has
gone directly to Jesus. Yesterday, she asked him if her two boys could sit
with him in his kingdom – one on the right hand, and the other on the left.
She didn’t specify which would be where.

We asked for some reaction from the Sons of Jonas. Andrew was not
available for comment, but here is what Simon Peter had to say.

(on another mic) “Well, I think this just shows how desperate my opponents are getting.
Everyone knows that I am now the top disciple. Besides, I think this was a
sleazy move. Women don’t even have the right to vote. So I say they
should stay out of men's business, especially politics.

News Anchor: Yes, things are really heating up there.

(As this is being said, someone runs in a gives Mel a piece of paper.)

We have breaking news on the economy. Let me take a look at this. Yes,
this is news. It seems – from our sources – that a leading tax collecting
scumbag is now giving money back to those who were over charged.
(looking up as if saying something on the side: “Personally, I haven’t
received my check yet.”) But this is being reported far and wide. You
might call this “an economic stimulus package.” (putting finger to his ear
as if receiving a message from the control room – “Oh, it seems my check
just arrived.”) Well, I guess this is good news.

(As this is being said, someone else runs in a gives Mel a piece of paper.)

(after reading it) Well, this is the day for breaking news. Even in the light
of this stimulus package, the stock market is taking a nose-dive. It all
surrounds the news that the stock of “Zacchaeus Enterprises” is heading
south. It is because their CEO has announced that he is repaying everyone
the company has cheated. No, no, let me get that straight. He is giving them
four times the amount. Now folks, that is breaking news.

Well, it is time to catch our breath and call on our correspondent in charge of medical news – Steve Street. Steve, what is this we are hearing about a ‘break through’ in blindness?

Steve: Yes Mel, you might call it that. The medical world is still reeling over the miraculous recovery of blind Bartimaeus! They have always known that Bartimaeus has had good lungs and a booming voice. Rumor has it that he has used it to his benefit.

We don’t have the details of exactly what happened. We have tried to get an interview with Mr. Bartimaeus, but it’s hard to get a mic on him when he’s jumping up and down – praising God. We will be able to bring you more during the 10 o’clock news. This is Steve Street reporting on sight, on the Jericho road that leads to Jerusalem.

News Anchor: Steve, before you go. Have you been able to observe anything noteworthy about his behavior – except for all the jumping up and down?

Steve: Well Mel, I’m glad you asked. The film crew and I have found it very inspiring watching his fascination with the most common everyday things. You know, things we all take for granted because we have seen it all our lives. You have to remember, Mr. Bartimaeus is seeing these things for the first time. Very inspiring. I’ll bring you more tonight. Back to you, Mel.

News Anchor: Thank you Steve. That was inspiring. We will be looking forward to your report.

Before we bring you the weather and sports, we will turn it over to Religious Editor, Pastor Horine, for an update on Calvary Baptist Church. Take it away, Pastor Horine.