

“Fighting the Right Battle”

JOHN 8:1-11

DR. RONALD WALBORN

ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



DR. RONALD WALBORN

ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



At dawn, Jesus appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, **"If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."** Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, **"Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"** "No one, sir," she said. **"Then neither do I condemn you,"** Jesus declared. **"Go now and leave your life of sin."**

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- *The Church has a long history of fighting the wrong battles*
James & John – “Call down fire, Jesus!”
Peter at the betrayal
The Disciples in Acts 1



The Swearing Golfer

DR. RONALD WALBORN

ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HOW DO WE WIN THE BATTLE FOR THE HEART?

DR. RONALD WALBORN

ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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Notice how long Jesus listens in this passage before he speaks

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- *EXERCISE MORE COMPASSION THAN CONTROL*
Compare the people transformed by the compassionate ministry of Jesus vs. the control of the Pharisees and Religious Leaders

*If we win the battle for the heart,
Life Change/Behavior follows*



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ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



*Who are the people in your world
whose hearts need to be won?*

DR. RONALD WALBORN

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*Who are the people in your world
whose hearts need to be won?*

*Let's take a moment and bring them
before the Compassionate Father*

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