

Worksheet: Contrasts in John 1–4

From Religion to Relationship – New Birth and Living Faith

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The contrasts in John 1–4 show how Jesus challenges us to look beyond the visible:

- away from our natural self, our limitations, and earthly efforts – toward the light and the heavenly new creation.
- away from fear of future judgment – toward trust in the grace of God and the redemption in Jesus Christ.

Instructions

1. Read John chapters 1–4 carefully.
2. Pay attention to the contrasts that become visible in the texts and make a list of them (there are at least 17).
3. Choose three contrasts and work through them in detail:
 - a. Meaning: What is being said? What does it mean?
 - b. Reflection: What is your attitude toward this truth?
 - c. Application: What are you thankful for, or what would you like to change?
4. Pray about the three contrasts you wrote down.

Example: List of Contrasts

- Light vs. Darkness (John 1:5; 1:9; 3:19–21)
- Best wine vs. Water
- Not condemned vs. Already condemned
- ...

Example: Detailed Study

Judgment vs. Not Accused

Whoever believes in Him is not judged; but whoever does not believe has already been judged, because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

John 3:18

Meaning:

Whoever believes does not come into judgment – they are not accused by God at all. But for those who do not believe, judgment is already real.

Reflection:

Do I truly believe the words of Jesus and know His grace? Am I still trying to earn salvation through performance?

Application:

I have assurance in Jesus: There is no condemnation for me (Romans 8:1). This faith gives me confidence and peace – already today and when judgment comes in the end.