

Jesus Progressively Reveals to His Disciples He is Jehovah God -
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I've made a brief outline of what seems to me to be the significant events recorded in the gospels in which Jesus progressively revealed to His disciples that He is Jehovah God.

I. The beginning relationship with Jesus. Jesus knew how these twelve were responding in their hearts to the message of John the Baptist and His beginning ministry. And because He knew their hearts, He showed them more. To Peter and Nathaniel He showed His prophetic ability at the time He called them. Jesus said to Nathaniel: "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." (John 1:45-49). To Peter, He said: "You are Simon son of John; you shall be called Cephas." (John 1:42) To Peter, Andrew, James and John He showed His ability to fill their fishing net. (Luke 5:4-11) At Cana He performed His miracle of turning water into wine and John writes..."and manifested His glory and His disciples believed Him." (John 2:11)

II. Ministry of Jesus unfolds. The disciples traveled throughout Galilee witnessing the miracles, healings, exorcisims, and teaching. This must have strengthened their conviction concerning the unicoueness of Jesus. They saw Him do so much! The disciples believed they had found and followed the Messiah for that is why they left everything to follow Him, but they had yet to understand that the Messiah was not an earthly king and that He was God. The event that Jesus used to lead them closer to knowing His diety was when Jesus clamed the sdorm. The wind stopped at the direct command of Jesus. "He rebuked the wind." (Matt. 8:23-27; Mk.4:36-41; Mhke 8:22-25). The impact on the disciples is seen in their comment: "Who is t is that even the wind and sea obey Him?" They knew the O. T. teaches that God controls nature. I am excited as I see Jesus using the principle of grace in the progressive revelation of His diety. He let them learn as they responded to what they saw and heart--then they could know more.

III. Jesus: The Christ, Son of God. The following series of events build to Peter's great confession.

1. Jesus sends the twelve disciples out with power and authority.
2. The disciples return successful, but having mingled with unbelievers and have been in contact with the talk of all those wondering who Jesus was.
3. Jesus takes the disciples off & be with them, but is followed by the large crowd.
4. Feeding of 5,000. Jesus does test the disciples on how they could feed the 5,000, but they fail that test. But the question probably helped them as they looked back at what was done.. He was giving them opportunity to think of Him as God -- God who could do anything. Knowing how grace works, this musthave worked on their hearts.
5. Jesus walks on water. To me this is most significant because Matthew writes in 14:33 --"And those in the boat worshipped Him." They are getting so close. Their hearts probably responded with out their understanding what was happening. And Jesus did not refuse their worship. They must have wondered then if He was in some way God. (Mark ways that the disciples had not learned and were hardened from the feeding of the 5,000 - Mk. 6:52 -

but I think he means their faith and trust in Jesus -- not concerning His divinity.)

6. Jesus reveals He is the Bread of Life and not an earthly Messiah King and the multitudes turn away -- not the twelve.
7. Peter's confession. The disciples believed Jesus in their hearts for they did not turn away. When Jesus asked who they thought He was -- because of their true belief, and the grace of God working freely in them -- Peter could say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." And Jesus said, "Only God could reveal that to you!" The understanding at this point seems to be that Jesus was the Messiah to come and He was truly the Son of God. This would make Him in some way God, but the disciples probably had not yet come to see Him as equal to God, the Father. Here Peter is convinced He is the Messiah and deity in that He is the Son of God. I don't think Jesus had revealed any more than that at this point.

IV. Greater understanding of the Son of God. Jesus was to suffer and die shortly and He had to prepare the disciples for this rejection.

1. Transfiguration -- confirmation to Peter, James and John that Jesus is the Son of God. "This is my Beloved Son, listen to Him." (Matt. 17:5, Mk. 9:7, Luk 9:35) God confirmed the confession of Peter! Even though the multitudes pulled away and the Jewish rulers wanted to stone Him for declaring His divinity, they had confirmation from God!
2. Raising of Lazarus -- Jesus was confirming His divinity and preparing His disciples to believe in the ability of Jesus to be resurrected as He foretold. John 11:4 - "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God that the Son of God may be glorified by it." And John 11:15 - "...and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe..."
3. Specific teaching on the divinity of Jesus. The Son of God is EQUAL to God. But the Holy Spirit had to yet reveal the depth of this teaching to the disciples.
 - a) Confrontation with Pharisees.
John 8:58 - "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM.'
John 10:30 -- "I and the Father are one."
 - b) Last Supper
John 14:6-11 -- "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth and the life; not one comes to the Father, but through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known Him and have seen Him.' Philip said to Him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, 'Show us the Father'?' etc.
John 17:5-6 -- "And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I ever had with Thee before the world was."

V. Jesus is Jehovah God!

1. Resurrection -- The significance of the confession of Thomas has never hit me like it did in this study. That was the recorded confession that declared Jesus as Jehovah God. "MY Lord and my God!" (John 20:28) (This was the high point of this study for me!)
2. Pentecost -- The disciples knew Jesus was God(Lord) and this is what we see Peter teaching from the very beginning:
 - Acts 2:36 - "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ - the Jesus whom you crucified."
 - Acts 10:36 - "The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)."

1. The first part of the document is a list of names of persons who have been appointed to various positions in the office of the Secretary of the State. The names are listed in alphabetical order and include the names of the appointees and the positions to which they have been appointed.

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