

## Prophetic Dance

### 2.1 Dance in Worship (by [Lorraine Waddell](#))

Dancing before God has always been a part of Hebrew tradition. It was a way of expressing praise, celebration, victory, and deep worship. We find many references to dances of all kinds through the Bible.

Hebrew dance took many forms and we find a different Hebrew word for each expression.

CHIYL	– to twist or whirl in a circular manner. <i>Judges 21:21</i>
MACHOWL	– a round dance. <i>Psalms 30:11, Jeremiah 31:4</i>
MECHOWLAH	– a dance/ company of dancers. <i>Judges 11:34, Exodus 15:20</i>
DALAG	– to leap or spring. <i>Song of Solomon 2:8, Isaiah 35:6</i>
CHAGAG	– to move in a circle/march in a sacred procession/celebrate a festival <i>1Sam.30:16</i>
KARAR	– to dance or whirl. <i>2 Samuel 6:14</i>
RAQAD	– to stamp/spring about/dance/jump/leap/skip <i>1Chron. 15:29</i>
PAZAZ	– to spring or leap. <i>2 Samuel 6:16</i>
PACACH	– to hop/skip over/to dance. <i>1 Kings 18:26</i>
GIYL/GUWL	– to spin round under the influence of emotion (usually rejoice) <i>1 Chronicles 16:31, Psalm 9:14</i>
ALATS	– to jump for joy/be joyful/rejoice/triumph. <i>Proverbs 28:12, Psalm 68:3</i>

In Western culture, by the time of the Reformation, dance was not considered valid in worship. God has been reviving creative giftings in His people of all cultures and traditions in these days and we are catching again the joy and freedom of expressing heartfelt worship to God with movement.

In fact, in these days, there is an awareness of the ability to **prophecy through dance**. *We will look at that more closely later in this section.*

King David danced and was criticised by Michal, his wife, who despised him for it. He danced with joy and with a sense of great victory as the Ark (the presence of God) was brought to Jerusalem.

**2 Sam. 6:14** "Then David danced before the Lord with all his might".

**Verse 16** "Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window and saw King David leaping and whirling before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart".

His devotion to God was the well from which the fountain of praise sprang. Not everyone will know this expression of intimacy; not everyone will understand. The heart of David ("a man after God's own heart" *Acts 13: 22*), and the hearts of those he trained, are clearly expressed in the Psalms:

*Ps. 149: 2-4* "Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. Let them praise his name with the dance; let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp for the Lord takes pleasure in His People."

God takes pleasure in our exuberant praise and adoring worship. Isn't that good?!

Let us join Heaven to express this to a Holy God in every way we can. He has enabled us, through Jesus, to enter his Holy Place.

### **Psalm 150**

“Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in his mighty **firmament!**  
Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to his excellent greatness!

Praise Him with the sound of the **trumpet**; Praise Him with the lute and **harp!**

Praise Him with the **timbrel** and **dance**;

Praise Him with **stringed instruments** and **flutes!**

Praise Him with **loud cymbals**;

Praise Him with **clashing cymbals!**

Let everything that has **breath** praise the Lord.

**PRAISE THE LORD!**

*Let your praise be **visible** and **audible**, HE IS WORTH IT!*

### 2.2 Prophetic Dance

“The Word is in you” (Rom. 10:8) and you can express it in symbolic movement – that’s prophetic.

God used symbolism in so many ways to speak to His people through the prophets. Jesus, Himself, Prophet of all prophets, used parables (symbolic stories) to teach the truth of the Kingdom.

The ‘dance of the Lord’ is the spontaneous, prophetic inspiration to declare the truth in movement. It is a visual presentation of the Word, which can inspire, encourage, and lead others into revelation.

In these days, we are exploring the ‘tools’ which enhance this presentation of the Truth through movement, and give glory to God. Beautifully flowing materials, symbolic colours, flags and banners which make strong declarations, percussion instruments of all kinds, are all being made available for when the inspiration comes to dance prophetically.

Prophetic Dance doesn’t have to be spontaneous; it can be an inspired theme, choreographed and structured to declare a Truth to those who are watching. It will bring glory to God and will “edify, exhort, or comfort others”. (1 Cor. 14:3).

**Musicians** can also prophesy.

“David and the captains separated to the service some of the sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, who should prophesy with lyres, harps, and cymbals.” (1 Chron. 25:1).

All this requires is skill on the instrument, inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the courage to step out to do it!

Have you ever heard the drums in celebration or warfare? What a powerful sound! Every skilled instrumentalist or percussionist, under the Spirit’s inspiration, can prophesy.

**“AS IT IS IN HEAVEN”** When we declare the Word, in whatever form it comes, it calls the Kingdom of God into place (“as it is in Heaven”). Things begin to shift in the supernatural realm. The kingdom of darkness begins to shake as the Word is declared by those who truly believe. Jericho was brought down by God through symbolic marching, blowing of trumpets, praising, and a loud shout!

Jehoshophat knew the power of praise. He sent his singers out before the warriors and they made war in the heavenlies, praising God and declaring His sovereignty. The enemy turned and killed each other. By the time the physical warriors got there, it was all over.

*Today, God is raising an army of **WORSHIPPING WARRIORS!***

The problem in the Church is that we have lost sense of the reality and power of symbolic declarations of the Kingdom, and have become uncomfortable with them. Jesus said that traditions and unbelief are the two things which render the Word ineffective.

Let's throw off the old garments of tradition and unbelief, pride, and fear of people's opinions. Let's be free to give our Halal and perform the prophetic word in whatever way the Holy Spirit inspires us.

Prophetic Dance is a symbolic expression of Truths we are petitioning, commanding, and calling into place. It is a form of **Intercession** and can be used as a tool for intercession.