

# Joy and History of the Dance

by Angie Kelley





- See the prevalence of dance in the Hebrew culture
  - By looking at some of the Hebrew and Greek words that reference dance.
- ask if it is OK to worship this way.



Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and **dancing**. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea."

ESV Exodus 15:20



As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and **dancing**, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, "Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands."

ESV **1 Samuel 18:6-7**

As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and **dancing**, to meet King Saul, with tambourines with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. The women sang to one another, **“mechowlah”** (Strong’s #4246) and said, “Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands.”

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‘**mechowlah**’ (#4246)

Noun feminine plural form of:

‘**chuwl**’ (#2342)

means:

means to “twist, whirl, dance”,

Hebrew 'chawl' = Greek 'choros (#5525)  
“a band of dancers and singers, a circular dance”

Root word of - “dance, chorus, choir”



"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and **dancing**."

ESV **Luke 15:25**

Greek “orcheomai” (Strong’s #3738)  
“a band of dancers and singers, a circular dance”

“We played the flute for you, and you did not **dance**;  
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.”

**ESV Matthew 11:17**

Hebrew “karar” (Strong’s #3769)  
and  
“raqad” (Strong’s #7540)  
to “skip, leap, whirl, and dance”.

So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the horn. <sup>16</sup> As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, and she despised him in her heart.

ESV<sub>2</sub> Samuel 6:15-16

“chagag” (Strong’s #2287)  
“to hold a feast, make a pilgrimage,  
celebrate, dance, and stagger”.

And when he had taken him down, behold, they (*the Amalekites*) were spread abroad over all the land, eating and drinking and **dancing** (*chagag*), because of all the great spoil they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah.

ESV **1 Samuel 30:16**

“chagag” (Strong’s #2287)

the root word of :

“chag” (Strong’s #2282)

“a feast”

“chag” (Strong’s #2282) - a masculine word

“chagah” (Strong’s 2283) - feminine form

means

“terror, a reeling”, and “to revolve”



“chuwg” (Strong’s #2328)

a root word that means:

“to encircle, encompass, describe a circle”

He has inscribed a **circle** on the face of the waters at the boundary between light and darkness.

ESV **Job 26:10**

... "Tomorrow shall be a feast (*chag*) to the LORD."

<sup>ESV</sup> **Exodus 32:5**

..."Tomorrow shall be a feast (*chag*) to the LORD."

ESV Exodus 32:5

"... as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the **dancing** (*mechowlah*), Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain."

ESV Exodus 32:19

Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month,  
when you have gathered in the fruit of the land,  
you shall **keep** (*chagag*) the **feast** (*chag*) of the  
LORD *for seven days ...*

ESV **Leviticus 23:39**

You shall **celebrate** (*chagag*) it as a **feast** (*chag*) to the LORD for seven days in the year. It is a statute forever throughout your generations; you shall **celebrate** (*chagag*) it in the seventh month.

ESV Leviticus 23:41

Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

<sup>ESV</sup> **Psalm 150:4**

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

<sup>ESV</sup> **Psalm 149:3**

... You (YVHV) *are* holy, enthroned in the  
praises of Israel.

NKJ **Psalm 22:3**

... You (YVHV) *are* holy, **enthroned** in the praises of Israel.

NKJ Psalm 22:3

**yashab** ( יָשַׁב – 3427 )



"But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, <sup>17</sup> "'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

**ESV Matthew 11:16-17**





**So Why Don't We?**



**The Dance is returning!**  
**As His future Bride,**  
**Let's get out of our box,**  
**And begin to practice now!**



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חג שמחה

Hag Samaech

*Have a Joyful Festival!*