

Ohev's Prophetic Ministry

by
Scott Moore

Welcome to Worship Shorts!

Today I want to mention something very unusual that occurs in our services, something that may stand out as being highly unusual, if you are accustomed to a non-Messianic synagogue. I am referring to that moment in our service when members are invited to stand up, take the microphone, and tell everyone what they believe God is saying or doing. We call this our prophetic ministry time, and sometimes it's very short, with almost no one speaking. But at other times, there are numerous utterances, and this could be followed by a time of prayer and/or ministry. So, although it's not a major part of our worship service, it is in a prominent place - and for one reason. This is part of what makes us a Messianic Jewish congregation. We have experienced that the God of Israel still speaks.

In the Book of Acts, people were surprised when the disciples began to speak with other tongues, and they looked for an explanation. Some must have suggested that the disciples were drunk. So Kefa (Peter) stood up and said, "Not so! These are not drunk as you suppose, but this is that that was spoken by the prophet Joel. That your sons and daughters would speak with other tongues and prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams and your young men will have visions."

So, if we are trusting Yeshua as being Messiah and part of the identity of God, then His promise to give us the *Ruach HaKodesh*, the Holy Spirit, is to be believed. If the *Ruach* has come to us, then we are meant to hear God's voice speaking among us.

It should be a commonplace thing that God would speak among us. We should not just expect this at a particular moment in our worship service. But we give a part of our service to allowing members to speak what they believe God has shared with them. Now you might sometime hear a correction. That means that we are continuing to listen to the voice of wisdom from the Scriptures. And it's in the Scriptures of Sha'ul that we find the ordinance to allow the prophesiers to speak two or three at a time, and let another judge. So when we judge a prophecy, the Elders are declaring that God has or has not spoken. It's not a shame to be corrected, but in order to have as little public correction as possible, we encourage those who believe God has shown them something, to be involved in prophesying in their small groups – their *chavurot*.

From before you arrive until you leave each Sabbath, allow yourself to ask whether the *Ruach* may be speaking something to you. If you want to know whether that is happening, you can test it. Ask *HaShem* to give you a clear sign that the thing you believe has come from Him really has. Often, some other member will stand up and say the same thing that you think the *Ruach* is saying to you. Then you will know and, with enough experiences like that, you will have more boldness to declare what the Spirit is saying. Then you can be used to confirm what others are hearing.

Sha'ul wrote that we should desire spiritual gifts, but especially that we might prophesy. This is part of our New Covenant reality. It belongs to us as followers of Yeshua, and we make every effort to give room for this in our services. As important as this is, there is one gift that is even more important, and that is love. But that's for another time and message. For now, thank you for listening to Worship Shorts!