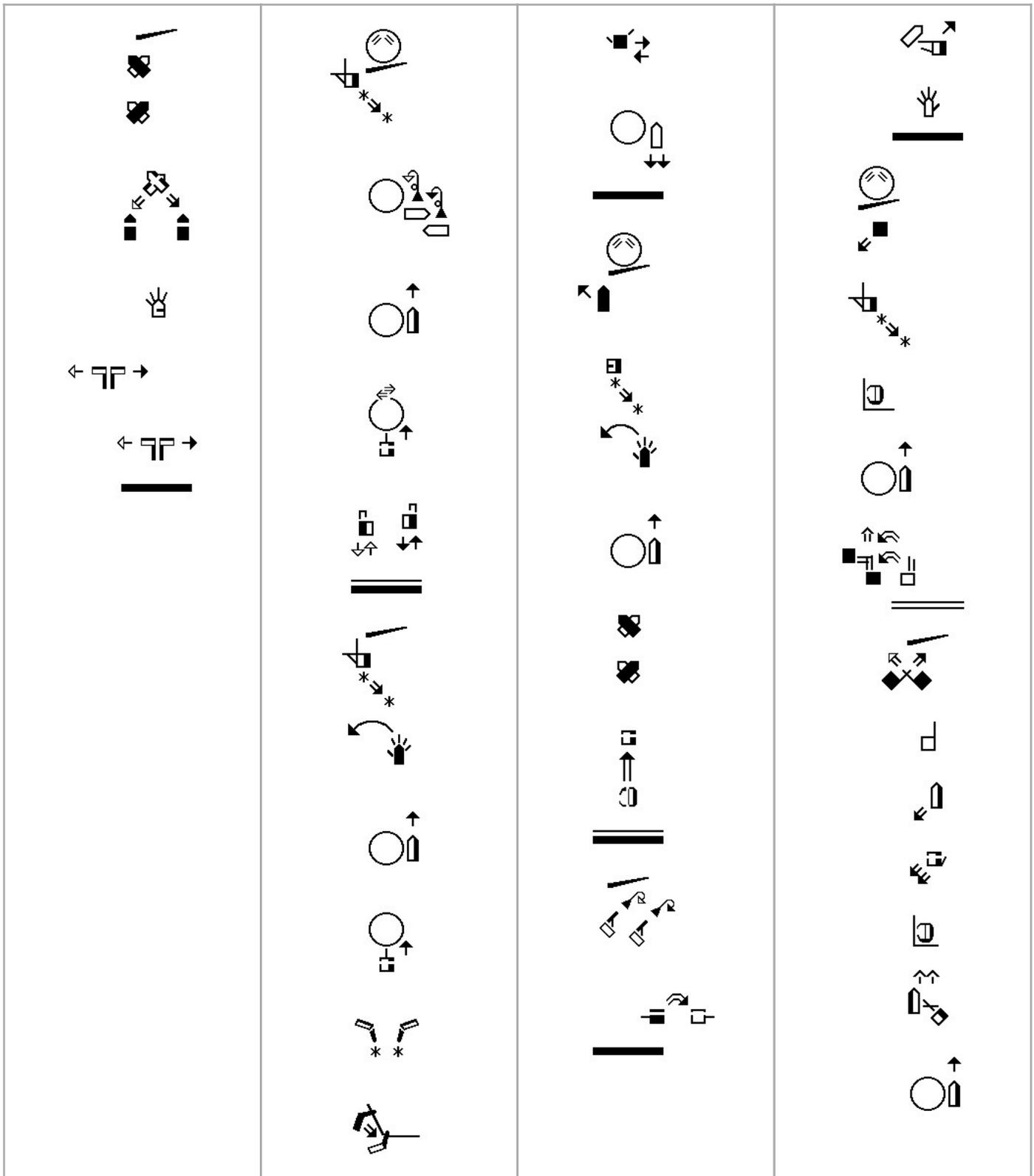


Chapter 11. I have been standing beside Michael to support and strengthen him since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede.) Verse 2. "Now then, I will reveal the truth to you. Three more Persian kings will reign, to be succeeded by a fourth, far richer than the others.

NLT

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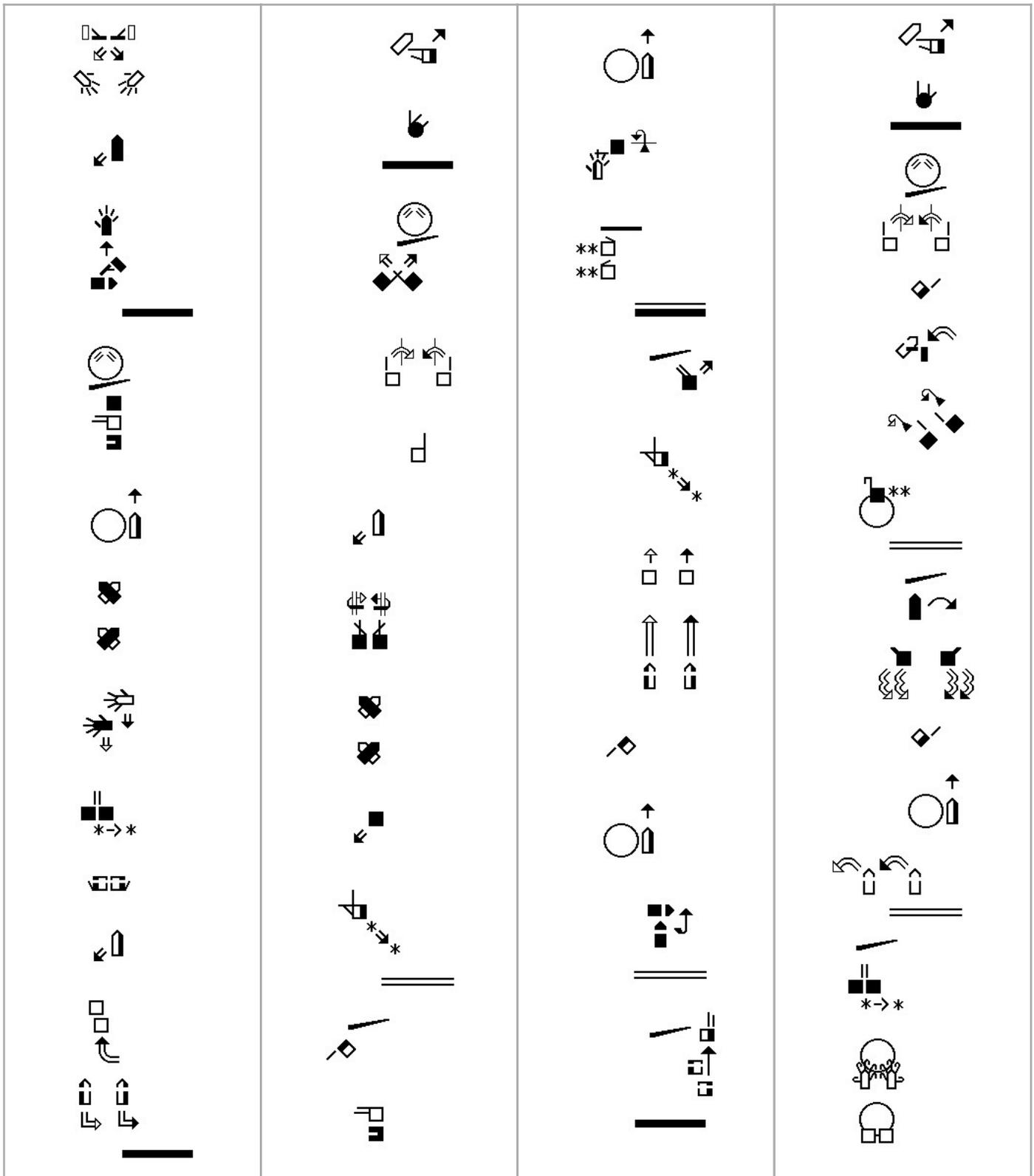
He will use his wealth to stir up everyone to fight against the kingdom of Greece. Verse 3. "Then a mighty king will rise to power who will rule with great authority and accomplish everything he sets out to do. Verse 4. But at the height of his power, his kingdom will be broken apart
 NLT



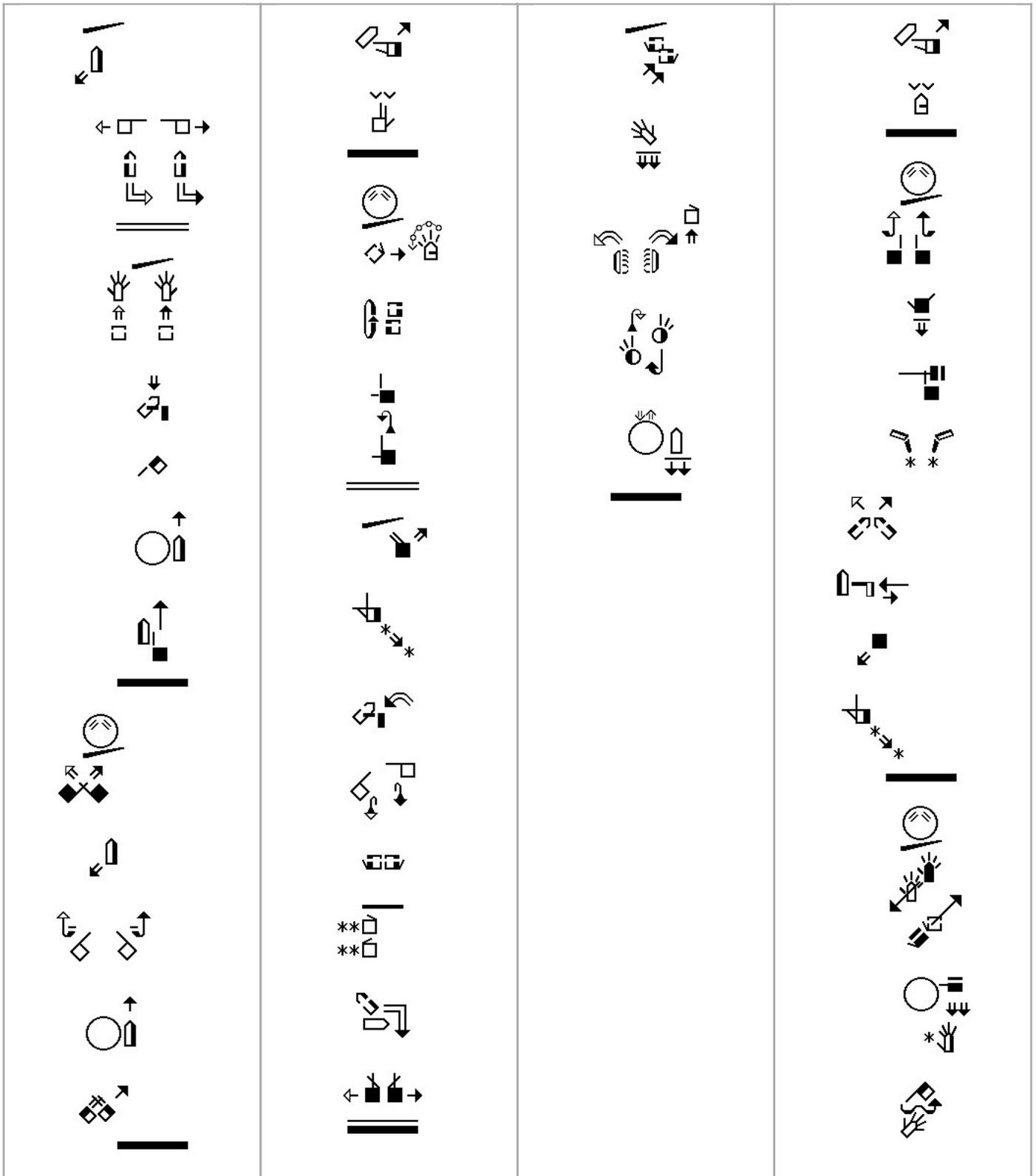
and divided into four parts. It will not be ruled by the king's descendants, nor will the kingdom hold the authority it once had. For his empire will be uprooted and given to others. Verse 5. "The king of the south will increase in power, but one of his own officials will

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become more powerful than he and will rule his kingdom with great strength. Verse 6. "Some years later an alliance will be formed between the king of the north and the king of the south. The daughter of the king of the south will be given in marriage to the king of the north to secure the alliance, but she will lose her influence over him, and so will her father. NLT

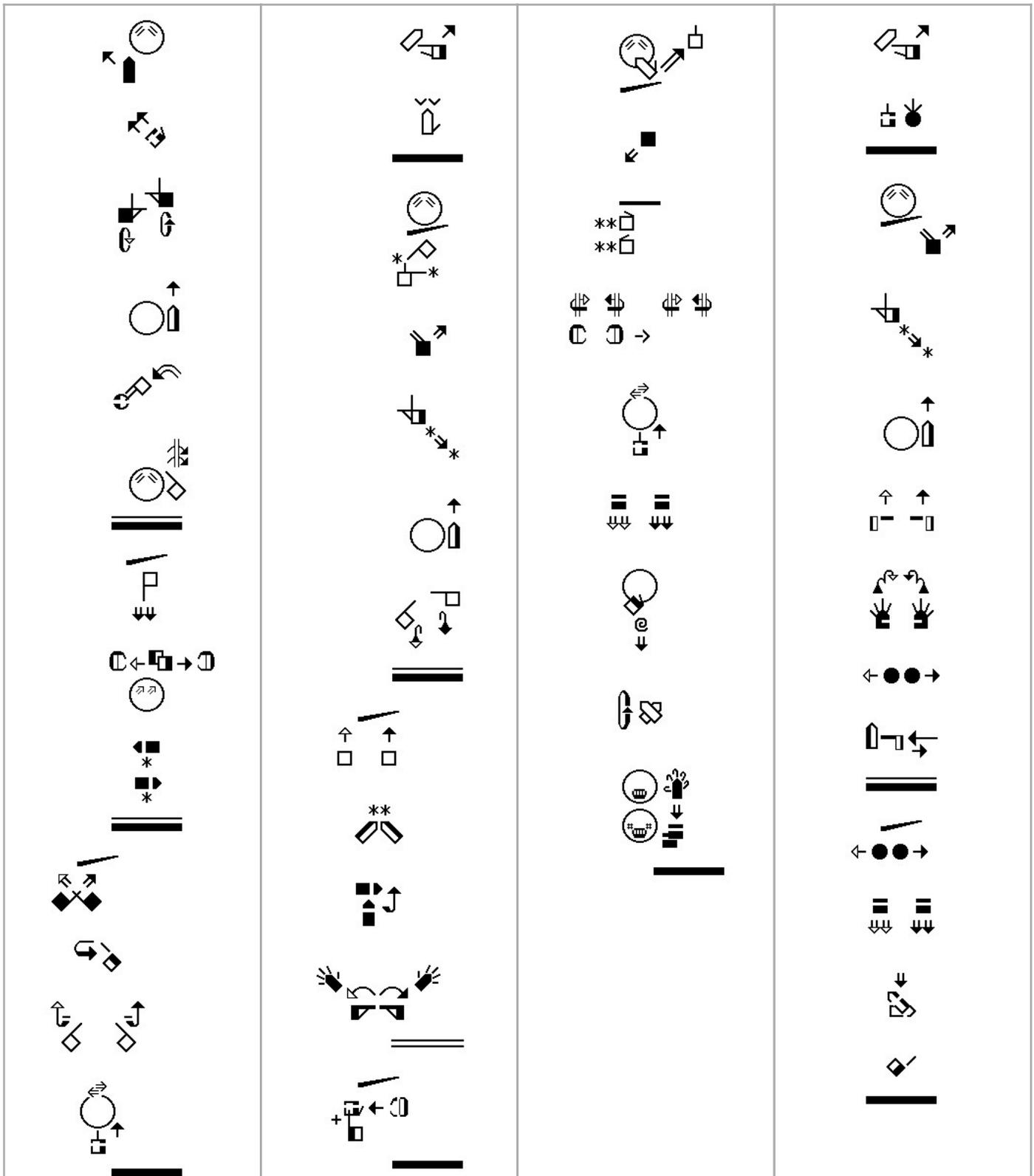


She will be abandoned along with her supporters. Verse 7. But when one of her relatives becomes king of the south, he will raise an army and enter the fortress of the king of the north and defeat him. Verse 8. When he returns to Egypt, he will carry back their idols with him, along with priceless
 NLT

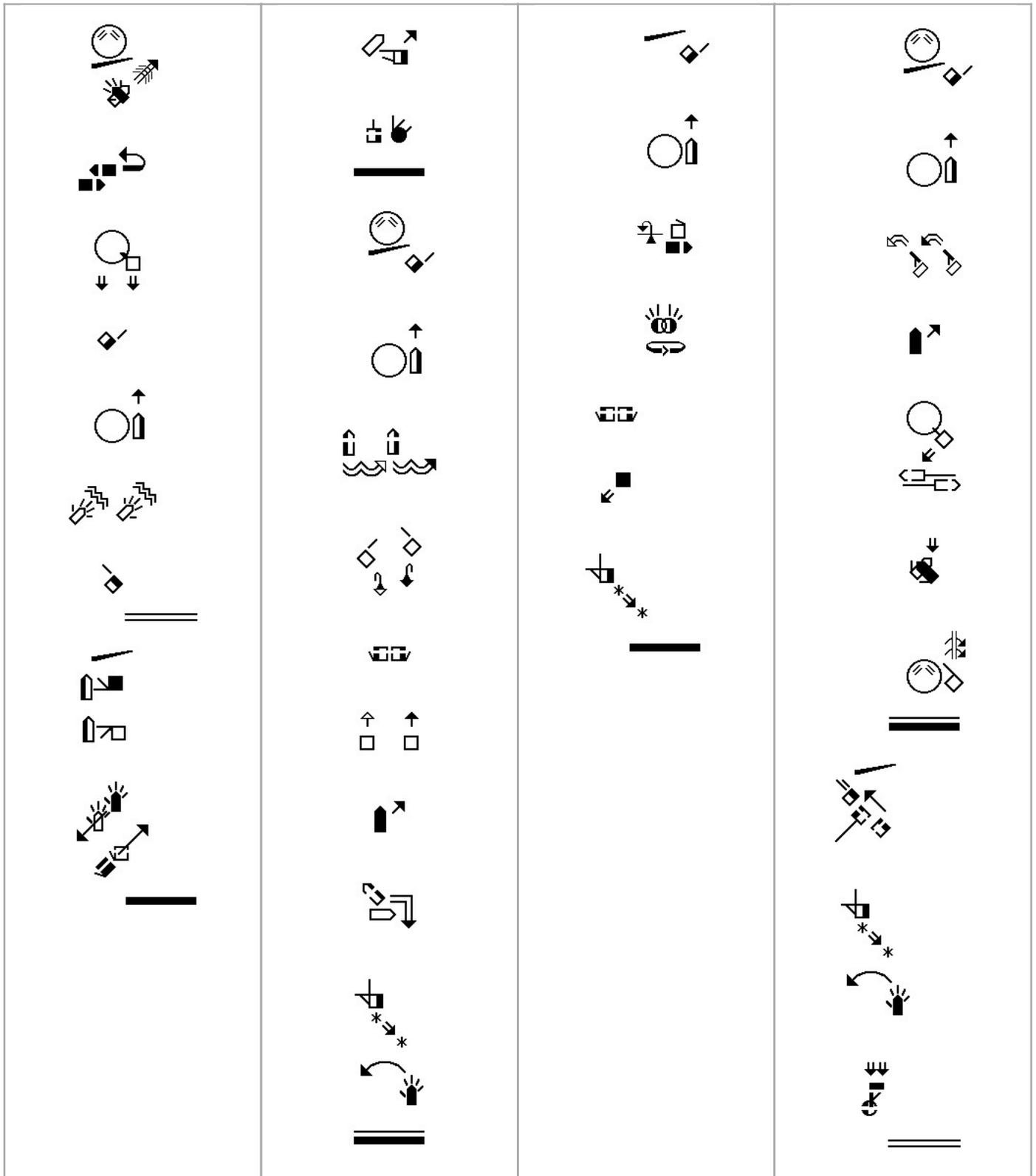


and will execute many thousands of his enemies. But his success will be short lived. Verse 13. "A few years later the king of the north will return with a fully equipped army far greater than before. Verse 14. At that time there will be a general uprising against the king of the south. Violent men among

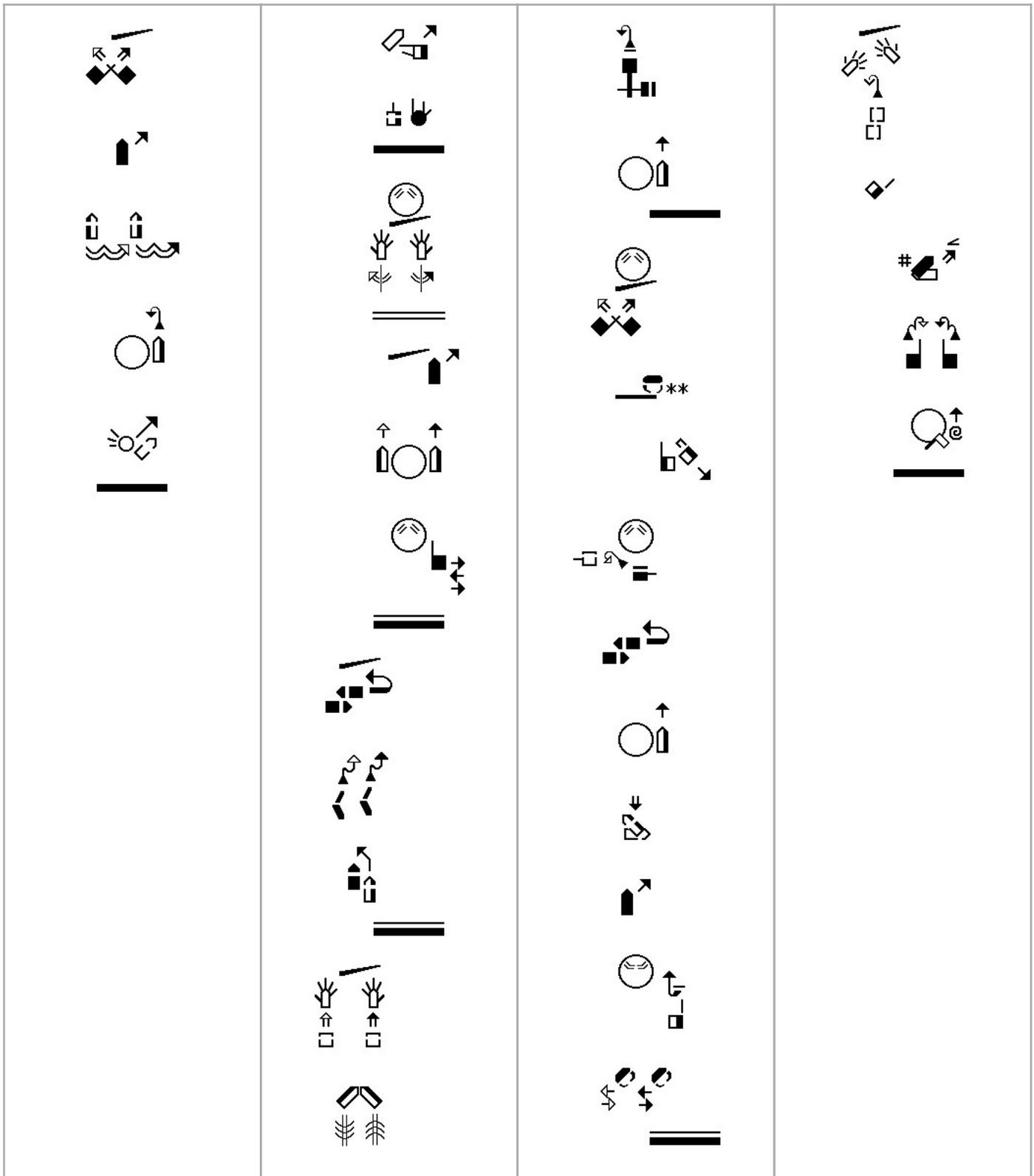
NLT



your own people will join them in fulfillment of this vision, but they will not succeed. Verse 15. Then the king of the north will come and lay siege to a fortified city and capture it. The best troops of the south will not be able to stand in the face of the onslaught. Verse 16. "The king of the north will march onward unopposed; none will be able to stop him. NLT



197 He will pause in the glorious land of Israel, intent on destroying it. Verse 17. He will make plans to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will form an alliance with the king of the south. He will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom from within, NLT

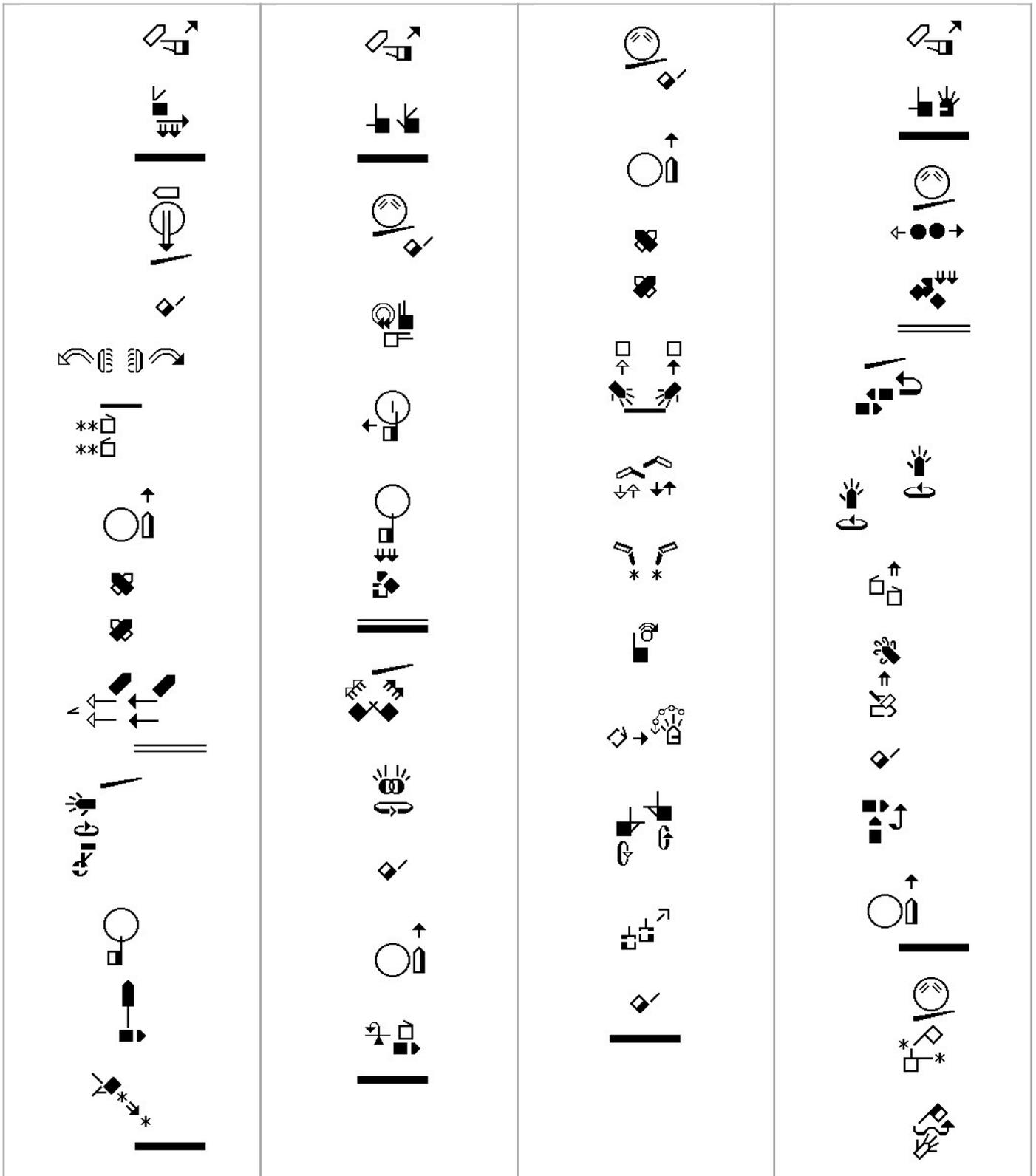


but his plan will fail. Verse 18. "After this, he will turn his attention to the coastland and conquer many cities. But a commander from another land will put an end to his insolence and cause him to retreat in shame.

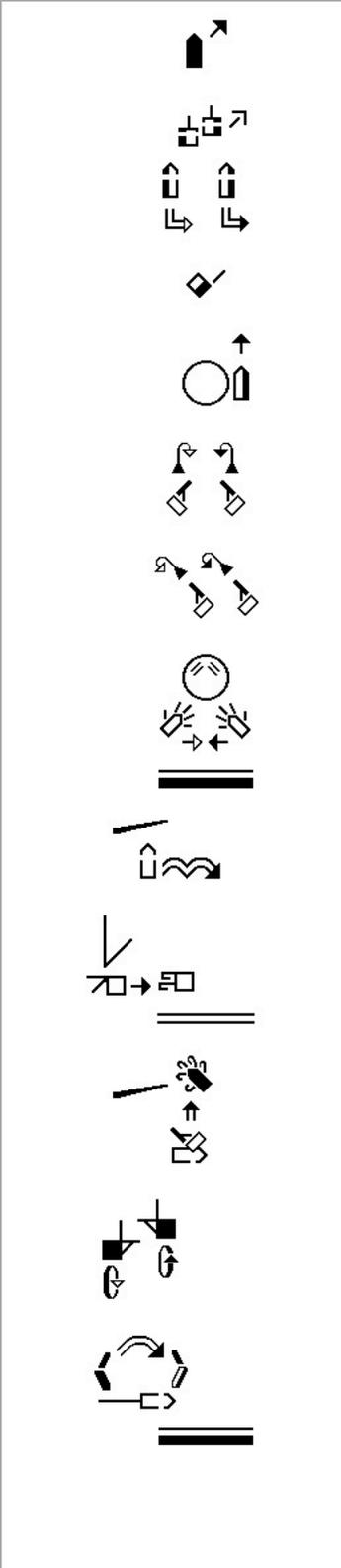
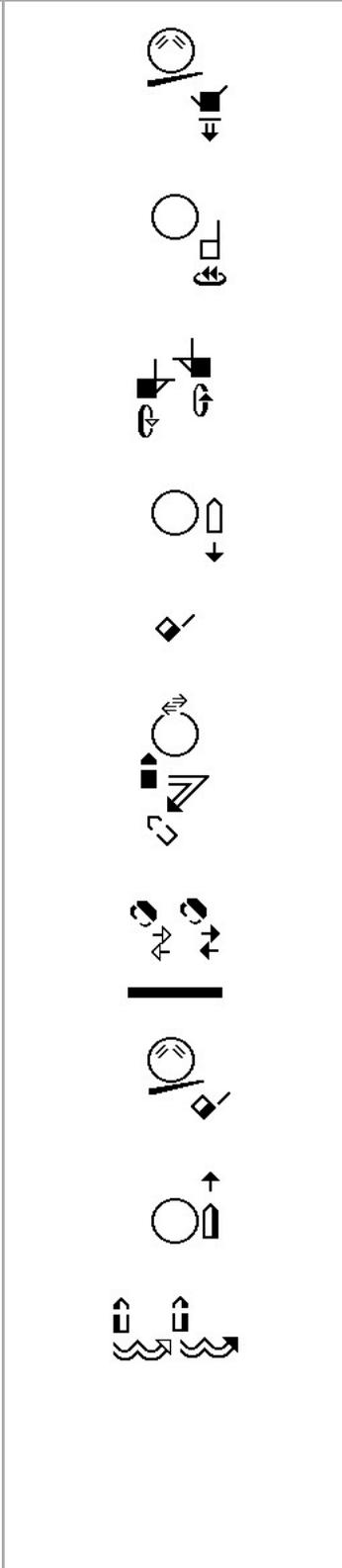
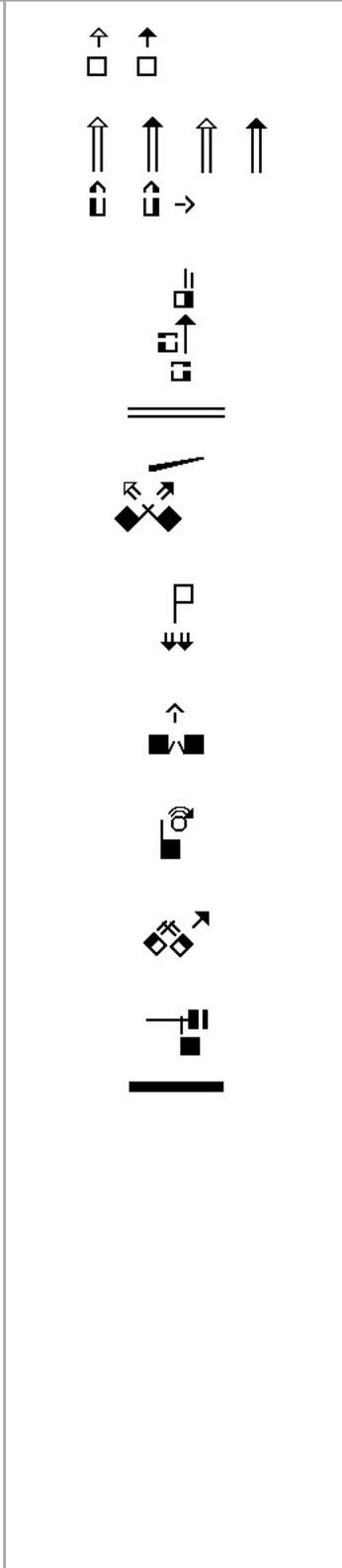
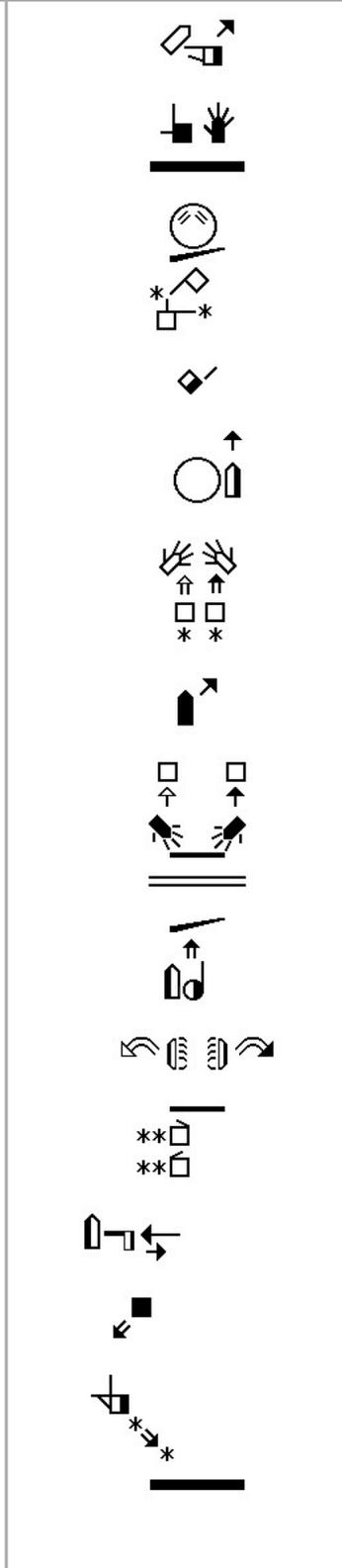
NLT

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though not from anger or in battle. Verse 21. "The next to come to power will be a despicable man who is not in line for royal succession. He will slip in when least expected and take over the kingdom by flattery and intrigue. NLT



Verse 22. Before him great armies will be swept away, including a covenant prince.
 Verse 23. With deceitful promises, he will make various alliances. He will become strong despite having only a handful of followers. Verse 24. Without warning he will enter the richest areas of the land. Then
 NLT

			
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he will distribute among his followers the plunder and wealth of the rich -- something his predecessors had never done. He will plot the overthrow of strongholds, but this will last for only a short while. Verse 25. "Then he will stir up his courage and raise a great army against the king of the south. NLT

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each other at the conference table, attempting to deceive each other. But it will make no difference, for the end will come at the appointed time. Verse 28. "The king of the north will then return home with great riches. On the way he will set himself against the people of the holy covenant,

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and he will withdraw and return home. But he will vent his anger against the people of the holy covenant and reward those who forsake the covenant. Verse 31. "His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary,

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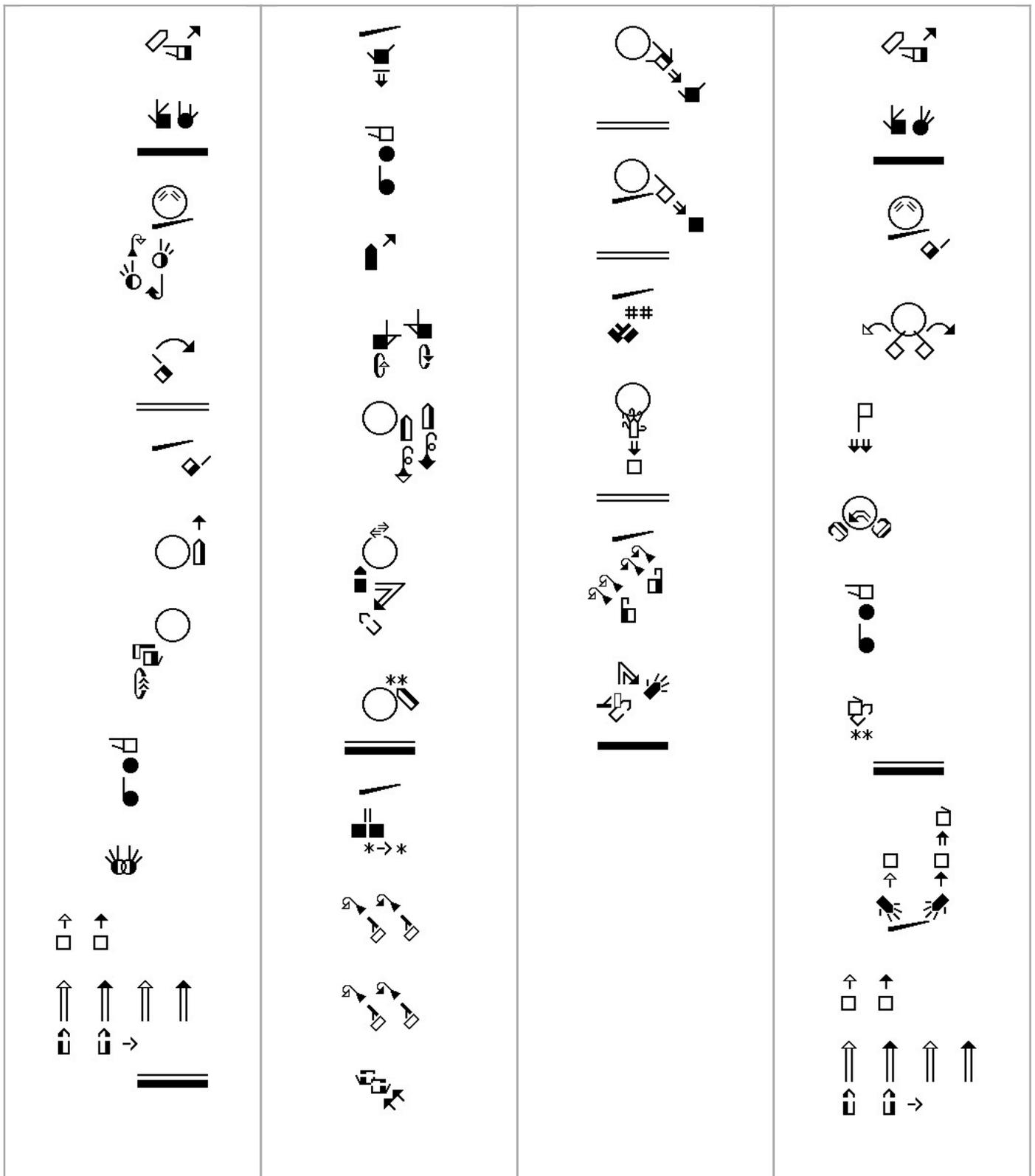
put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacriligious object that causes desecration. Verse 32. He will flatter and win over those who have violated the covenant. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him. Verse 33. "Wise leaders will give instruction to many, but these teachers NLT

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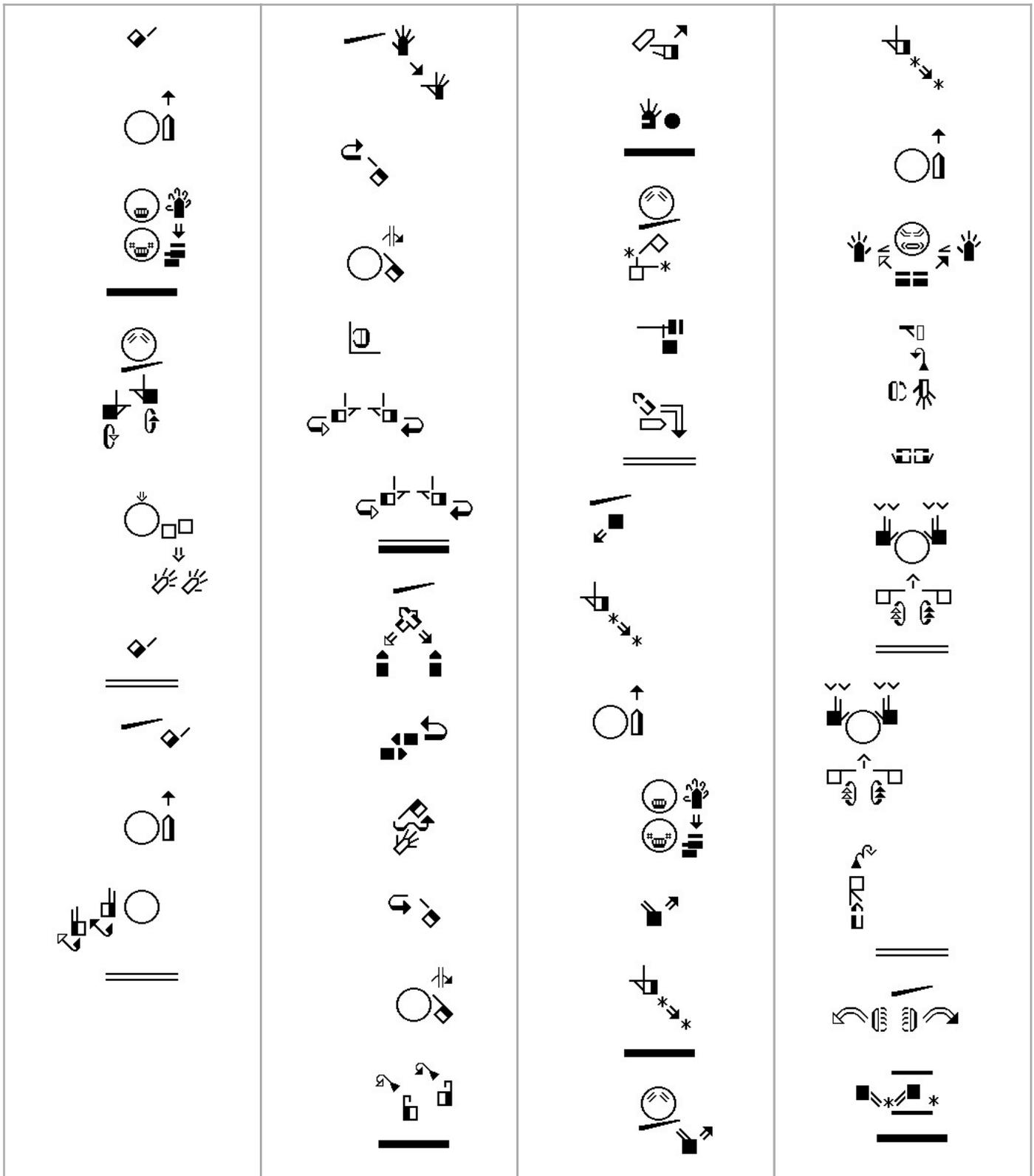
will die by fire and sword, or they will be jailed and robbed. Verse 34. During these persecutions, little help will arrive, and many who join them will not be sincere. Verse 35. And some of the well will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they will be

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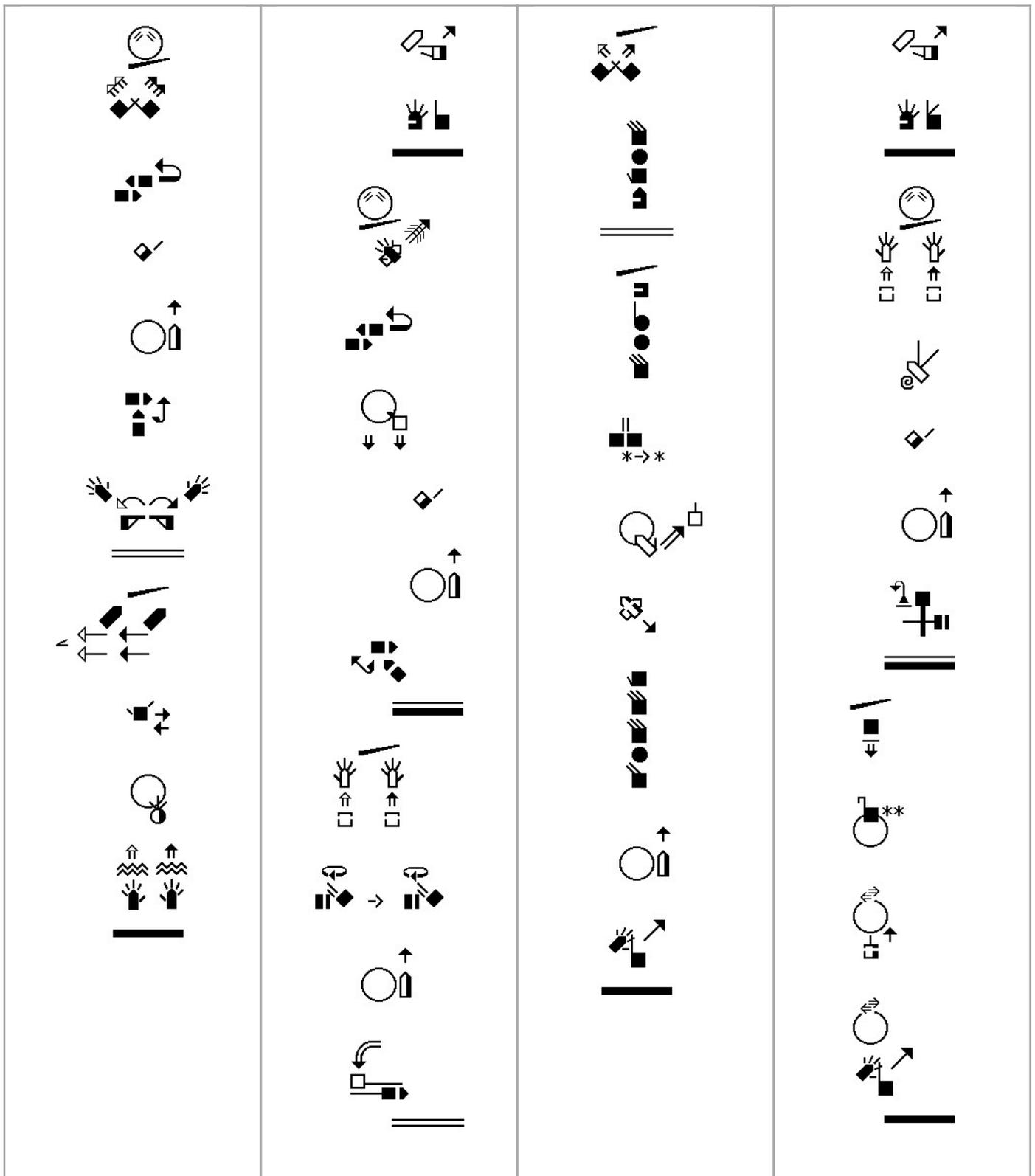
refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, for the appointed time is still to come. Verse 36. "The king will do as he pleases, exalting himself and claiming to be greater than every god, even blaspheming the God of gods. He will succeed, but only until the time of wrath is completed. NLT



211 Verse 38. Instead of these, he will worship the god of fortresses -- a god his ancestors never knew -- and lavish on him gold, silver, precious stones, and expensive gifts. Verse 39. Claiming this foreign god's help, he will attack the strongest fortresses. NLT



He will honor those who submit to him, appointing them to positions of authority and dividing the land among them as their reward. Verse 40. "Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north. The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy. NLT



213 He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood. Verse 41. He will enter the glorious land of Israel, and many nations will fall, but Moab, Edom, and the best part of Ammon will escape. Verse 42. He will conquer many countries, and even Egypt will not escape. NLT

