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Chapter 15. Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. Verse 2. It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you -- unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. NLT

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























































Verse 3. I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. Verse 4. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. Verse 5. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve.

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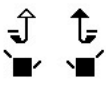
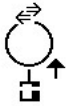

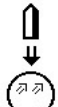









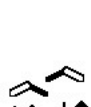


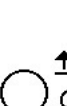
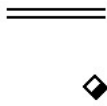
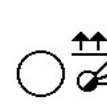




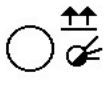
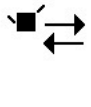


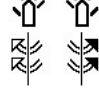






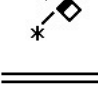




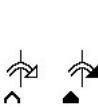
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Verse 6. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Verse 7. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Verse 8. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

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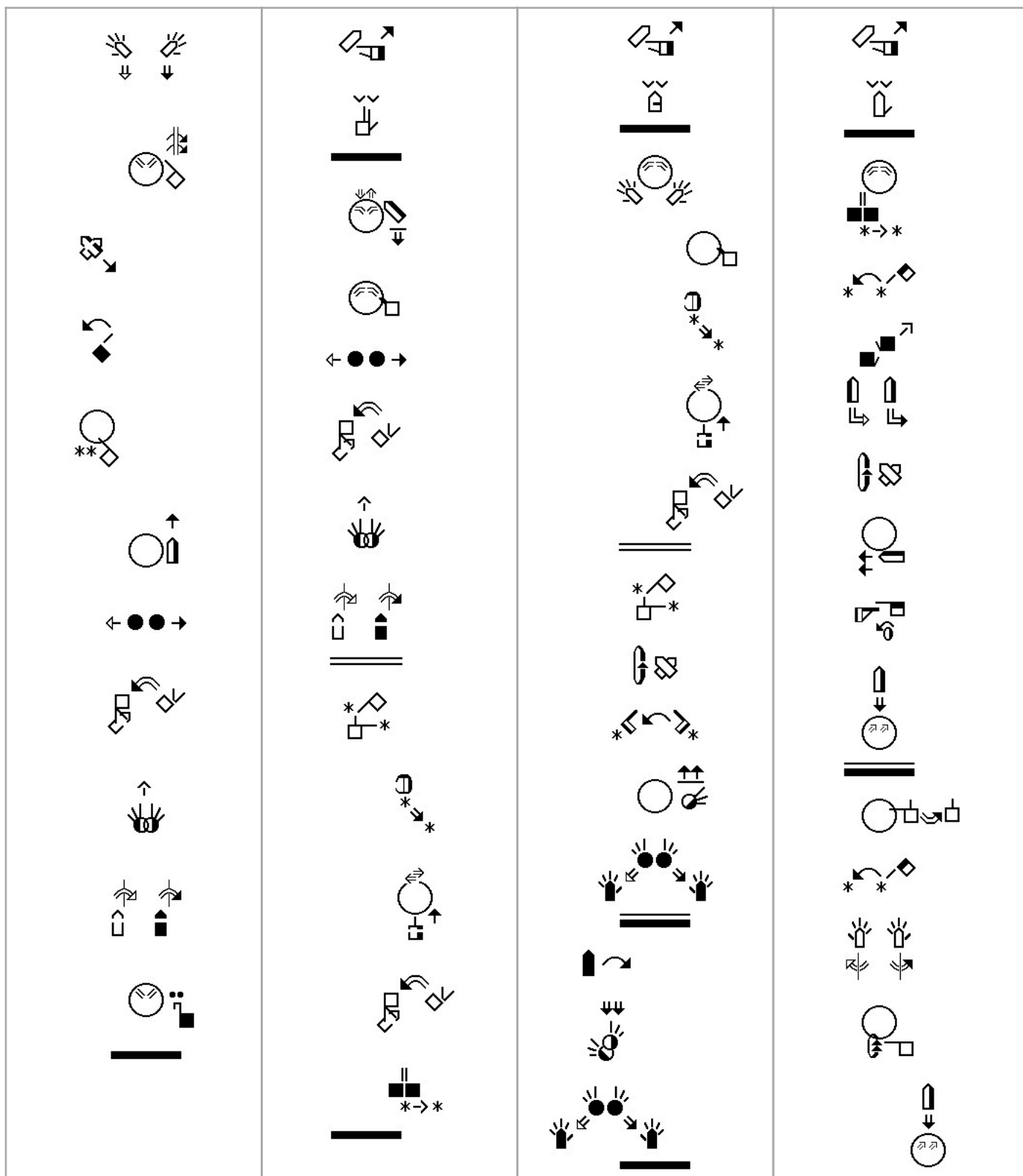
             	             	             	             
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Verse 9. For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church. Verse 10. But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me -- and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles;

         	          	        	         
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yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace. Verse 11. So it makes no difference whether I preach or they preach, for we all preach the same message you have already believed. Verse 12. But tell me this -- since we preach that Christ rose from the dead,

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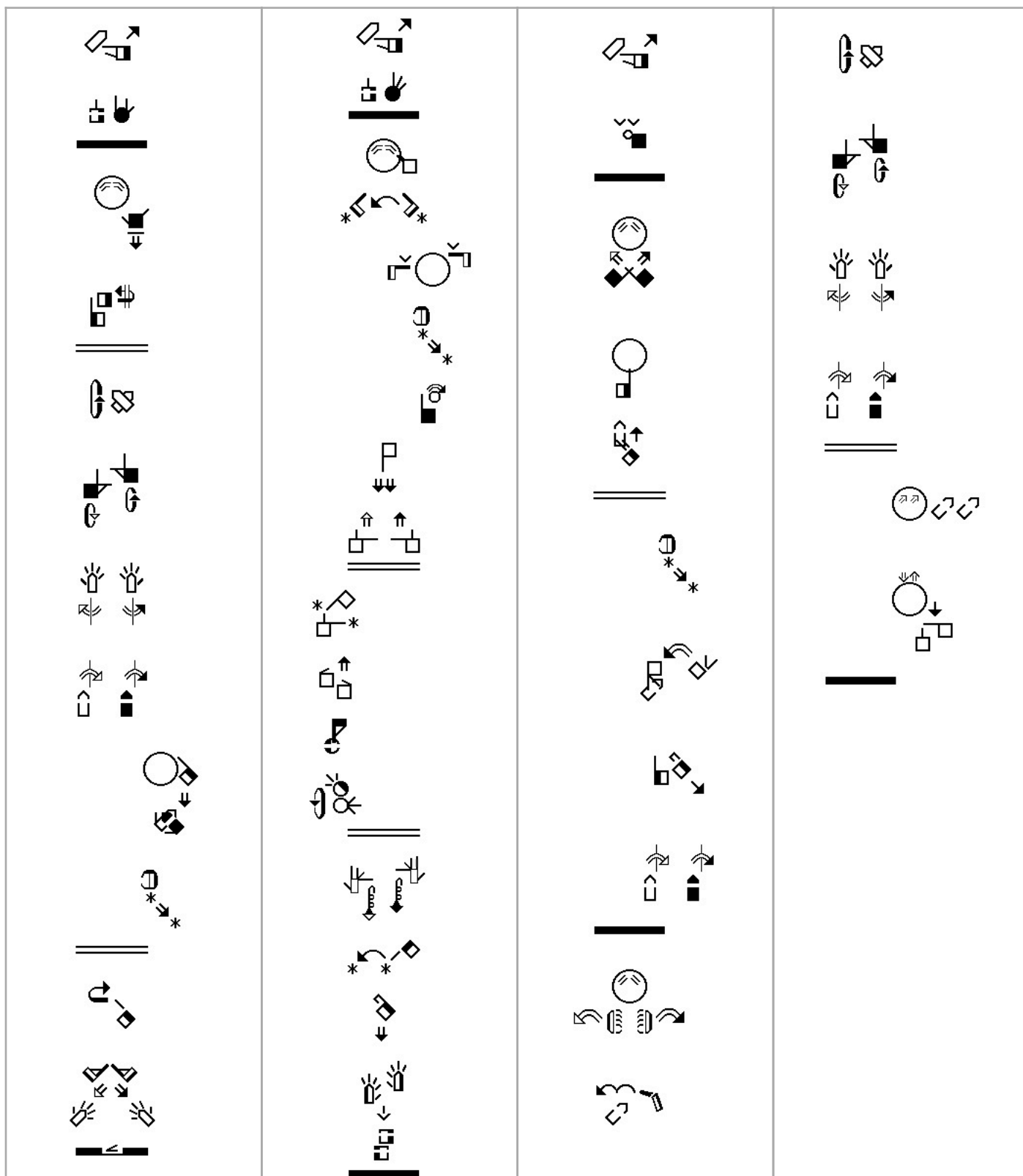


why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? Verse 13. For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. Verse 14. And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. Verse 15. And we apostles would all be lying about God -- for we have said that God

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raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. Verse 16. And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. Verse 17. And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins.

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Verse 18. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! Verse 19. And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. Verse 20. But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

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<p>ASL signs for Verse 23: Christ as the first of the harvest. The sequence includes signs for 'first', 'harvest', 'Christ', and 'resurrection'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 24: All who belong to Christ will be raised. The sequence includes signs for 'all', 'belong to Christ', 'raised', and 'when he comes back'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 25: After that the end will come. The sequence includes signs for 'after that', 'end', 'will come', and 'when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 26: Having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. The sequence includes signs for 'having destroyed', 'every ruler and authority and power'.</p>
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Verse 23. But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back. Verse 24. After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power.













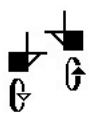
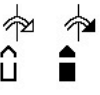


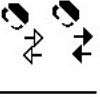

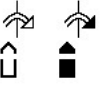






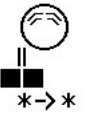






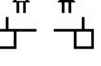






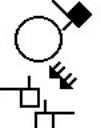
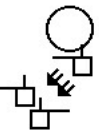








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Verse 25. For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. Verse 26. And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. Verse 27. For the Scriptures say, "God has put all things under his authority." (Of course, when it says "all things are under his authority,"

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is as certain as my pride in what Christ Jesus our Lord has done in you. Verse 32. And what value was there in fighting wild beasts -- those people of Ephesus -- if there will be no resurrection from the dead? And if there is no resurrection, "Let's feast and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

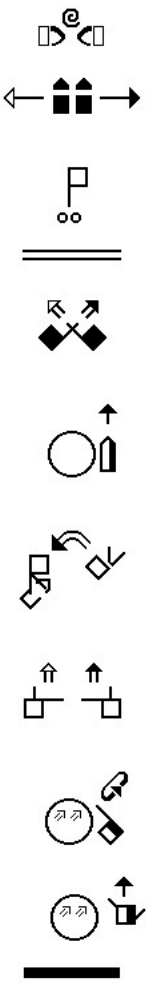
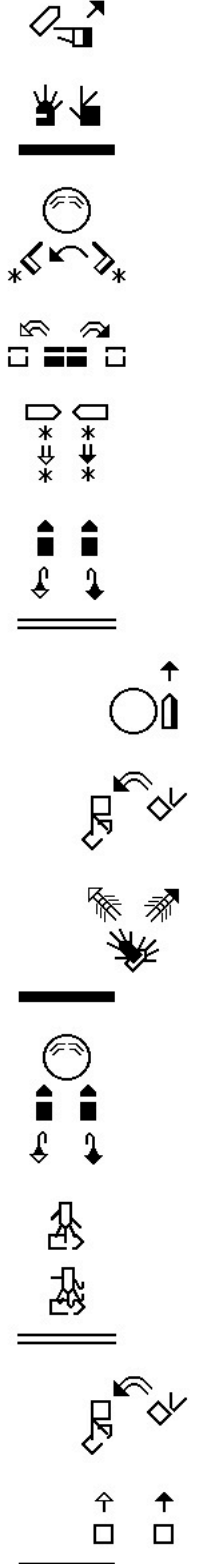
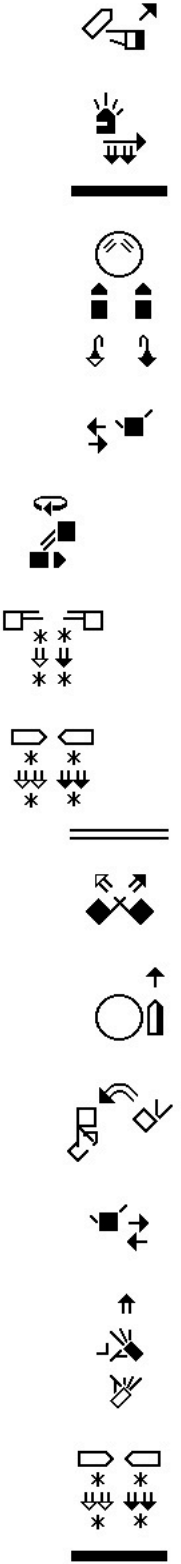
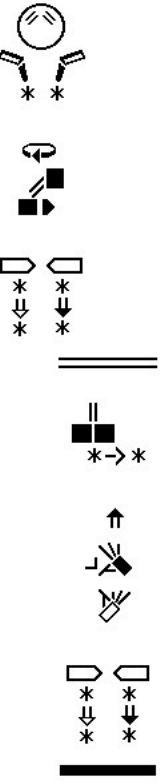
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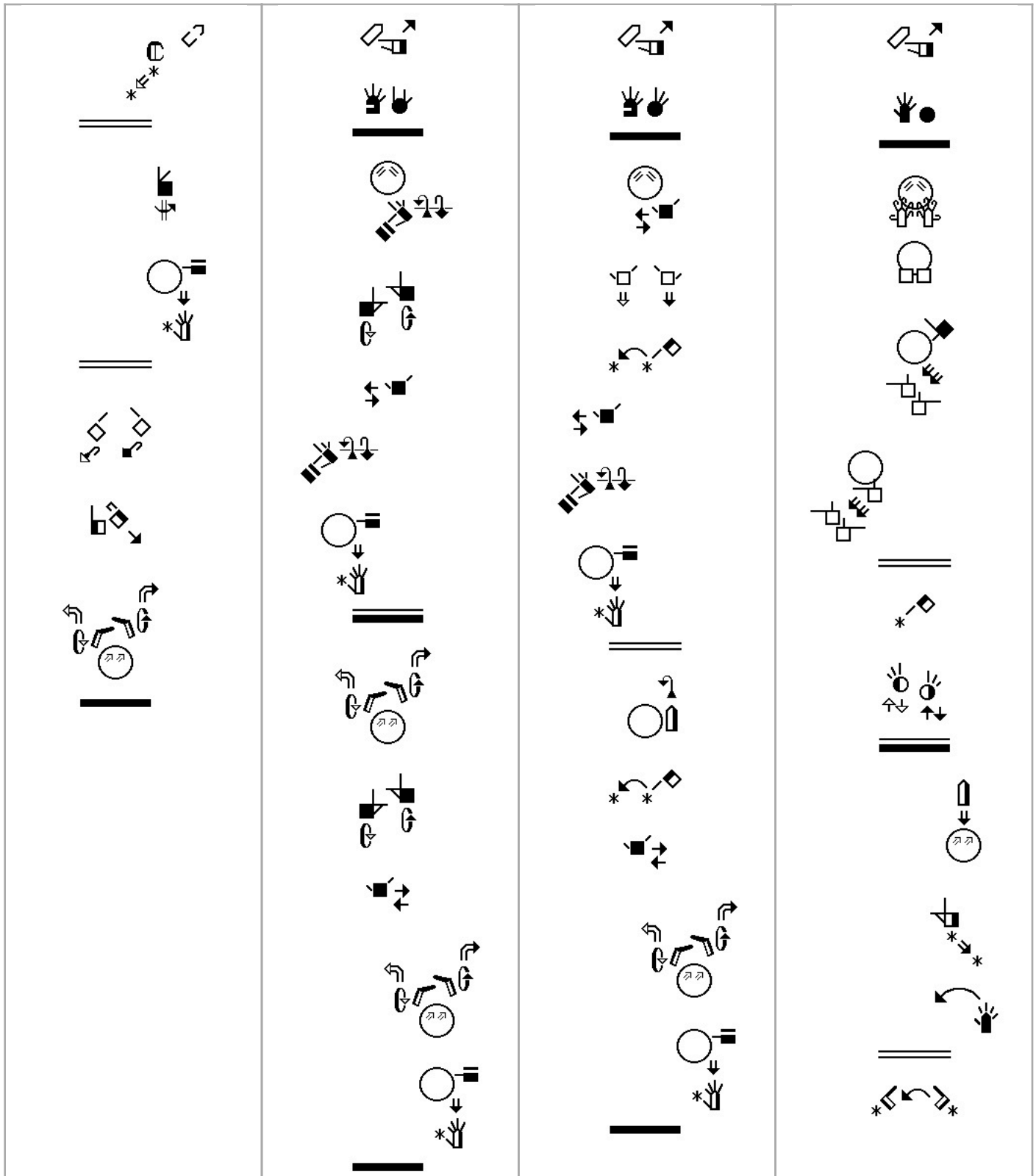
			
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are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. Verse 43. Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. Verse 44. They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies. NLT

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Verse 45. The Scriptures tell us, "The first man, Adam, became a living person." But the last Adam -- that is, Christ -- is a life-giving Spirit. Verse 46. What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later. Verse 47. Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth,

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while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. Verse 48. Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. Verse 49. Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man. Verse 50. What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our

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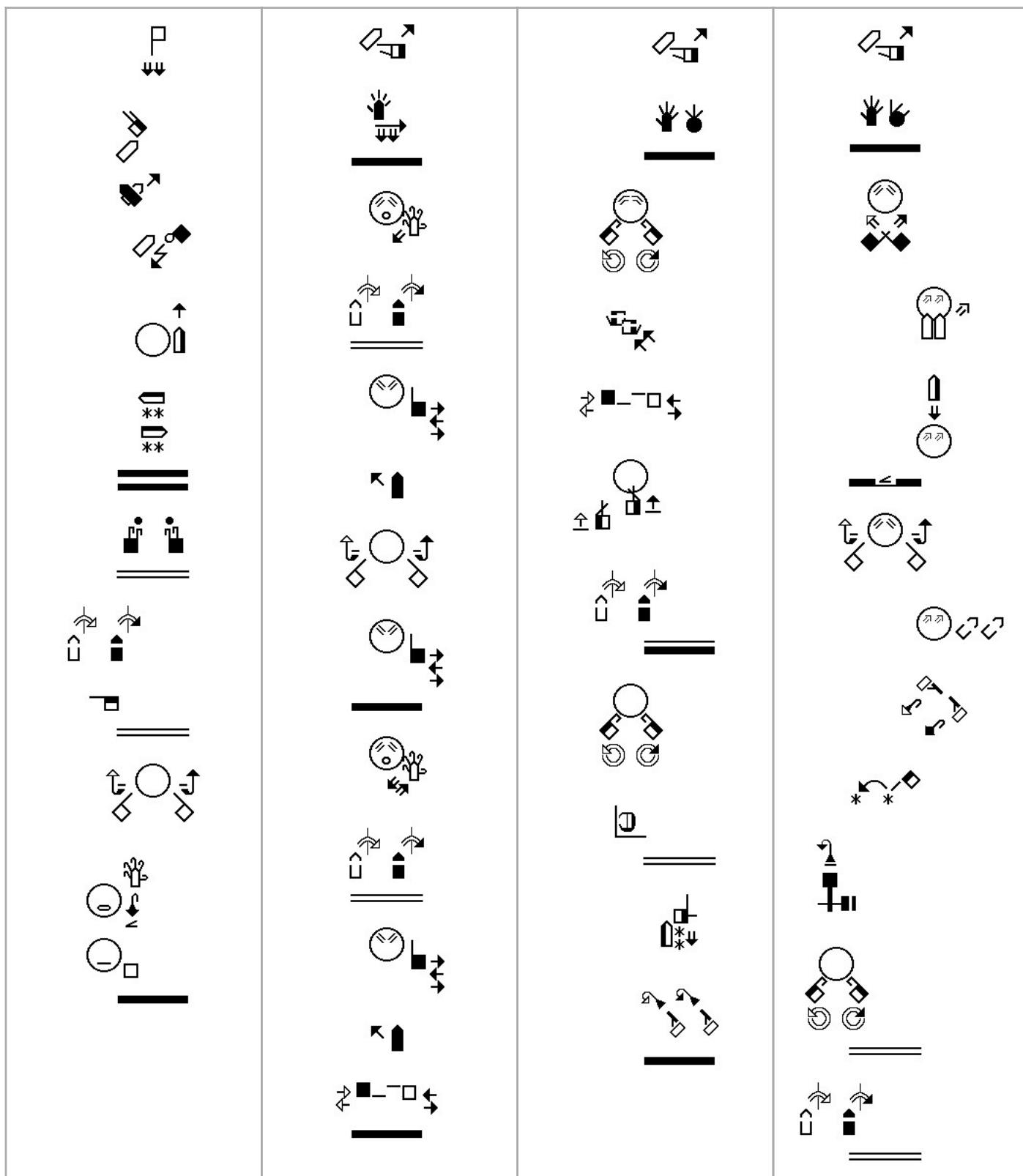
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physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever. Verse 51. But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! Verse 52. It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds,

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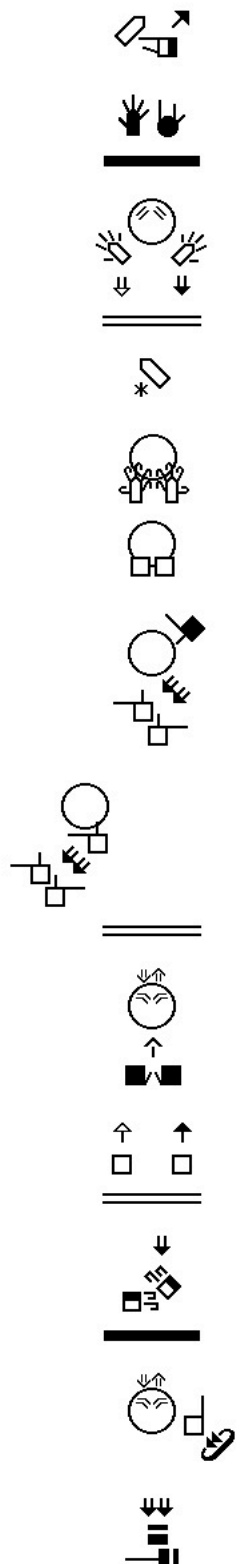
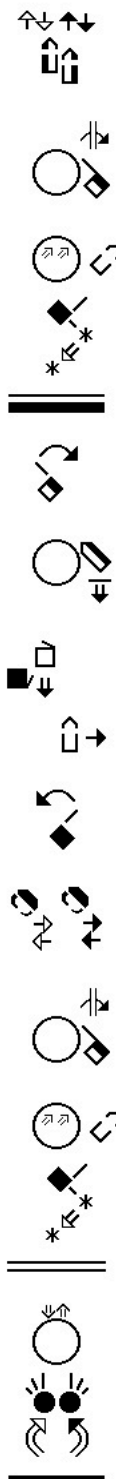
those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. Verse 53. For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. Verse 54. Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die,

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this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. Verse 55. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" Verse 56. For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. Verse 57. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death

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203 through our Lord Jesus Christ. Verse 58. So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. NLT