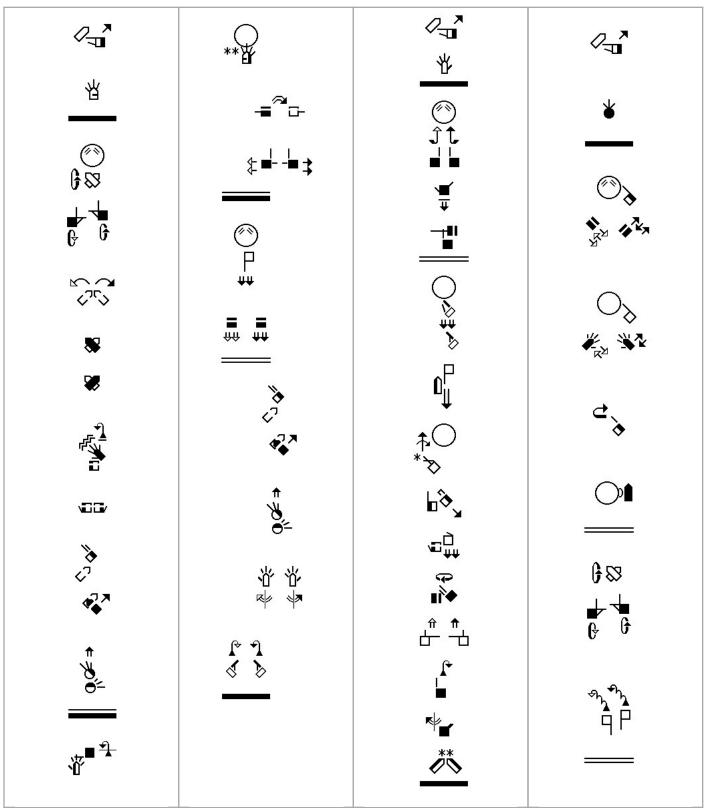
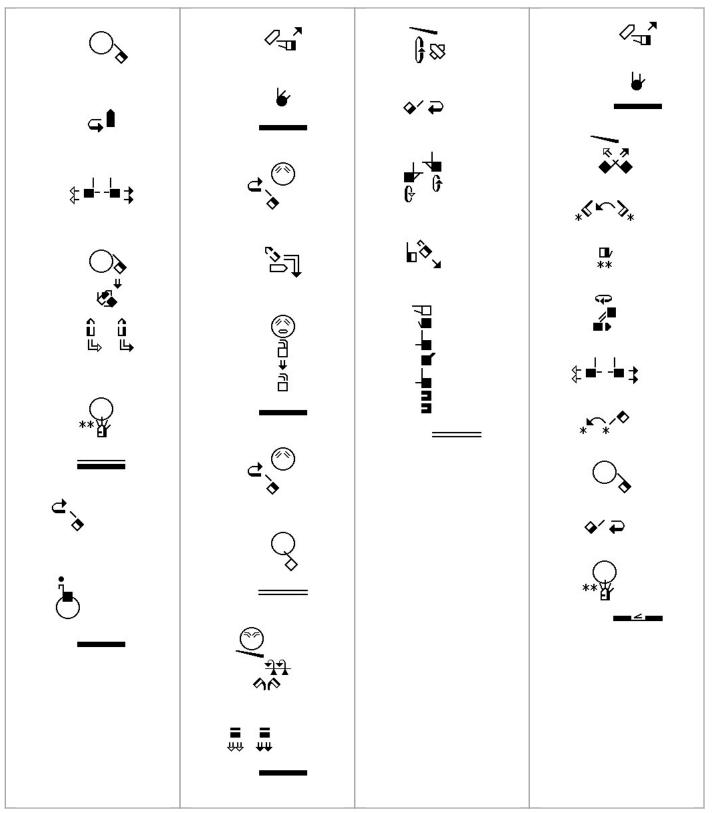


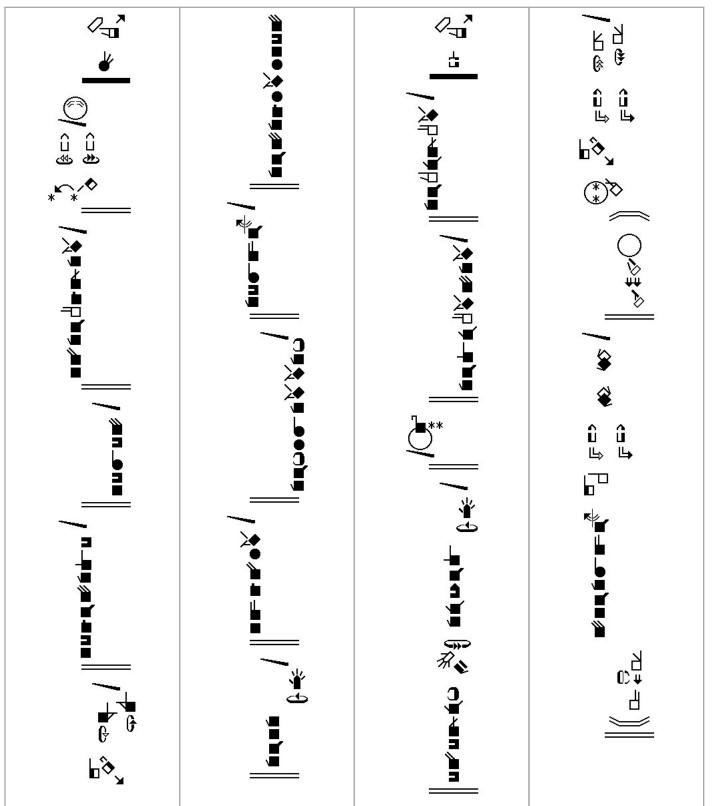
Chapter 2. On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Verse 2. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Verse 3. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them.



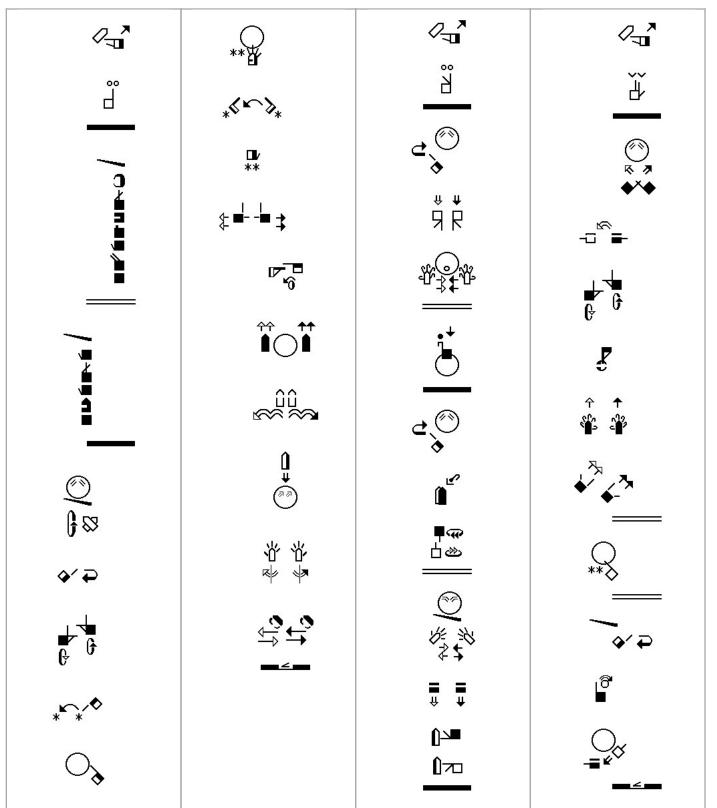
Verse 4. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. Verse 5. At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. Verse 6. When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, NLT



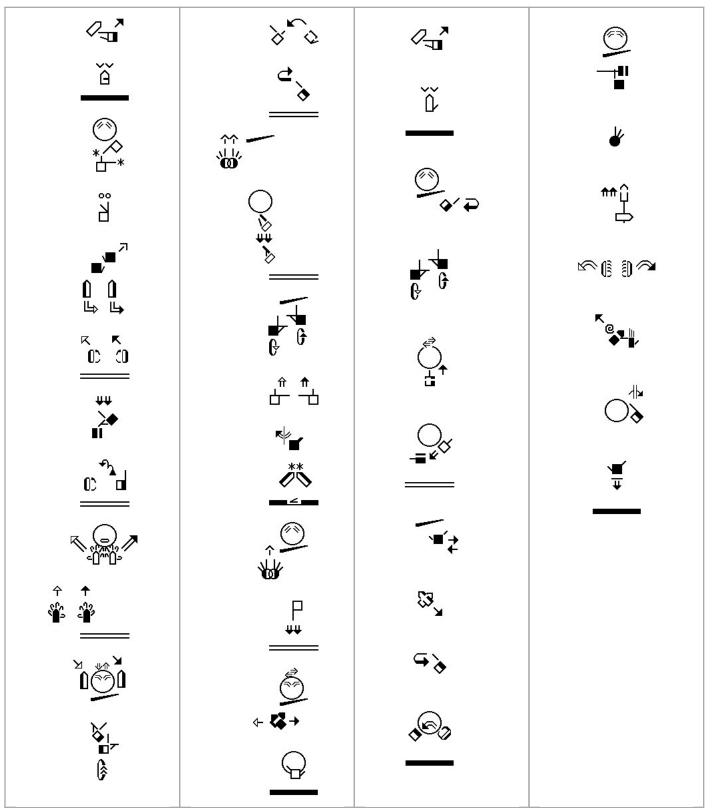
and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.
Verse 7. They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, Verse 8. and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages!



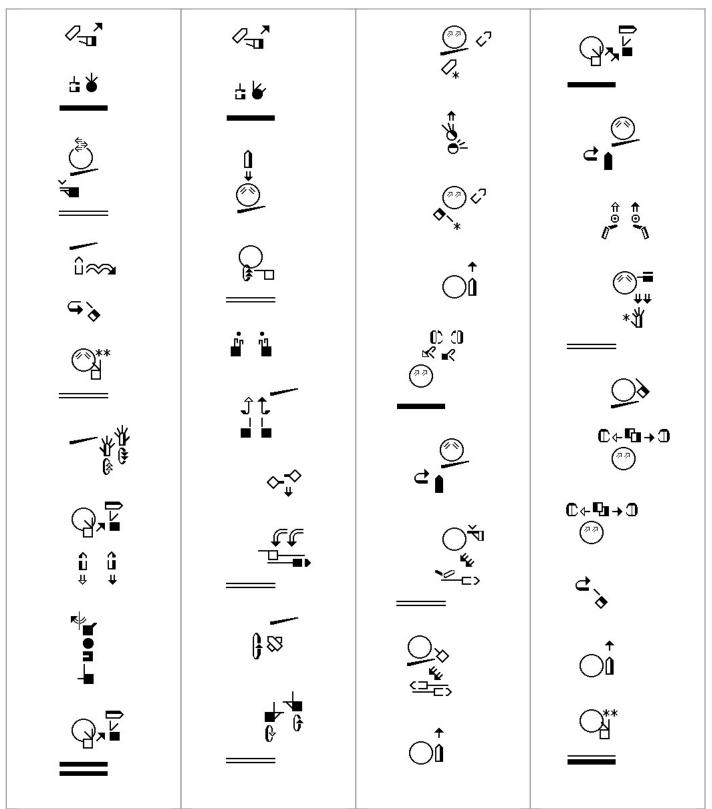
Verse 9. Here we are -- Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Verse 10. Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), NLT



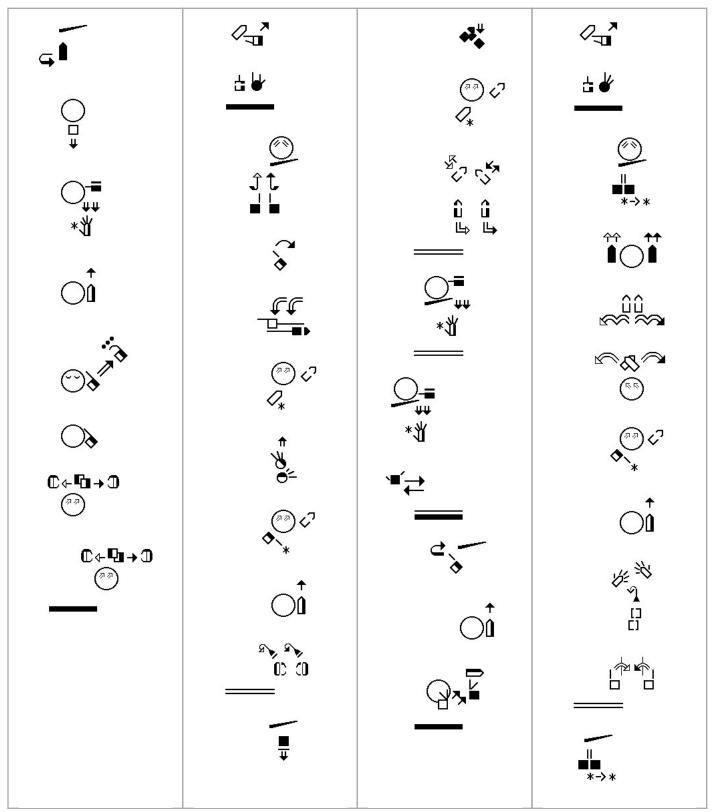
Verse 11. Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" Verse 12. They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. Verse 13. But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!" NLT



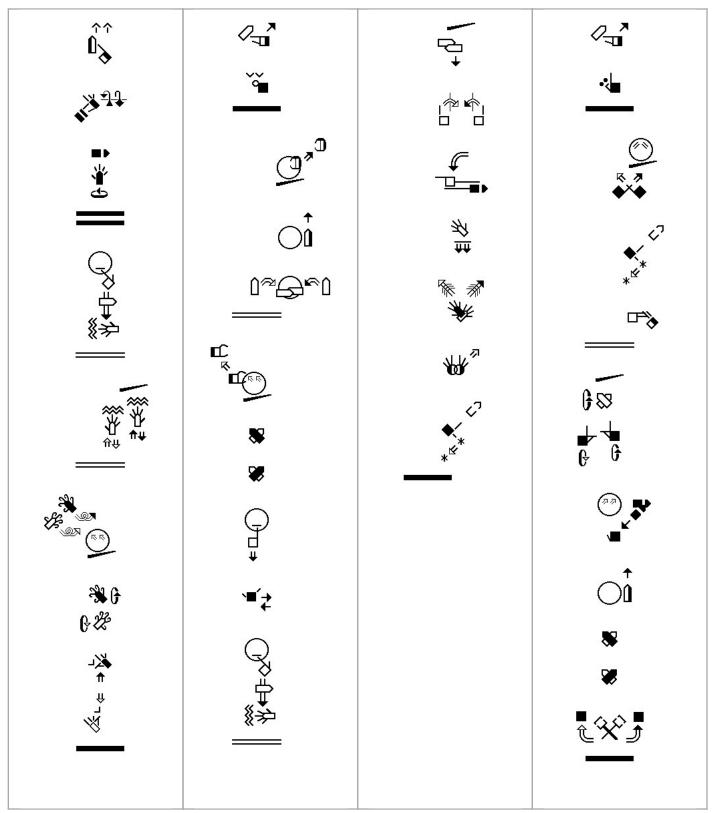
Verse 14. Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. Verse 15. These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. NLT



Verse 16. No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel: Verse 17. 'In
the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions,

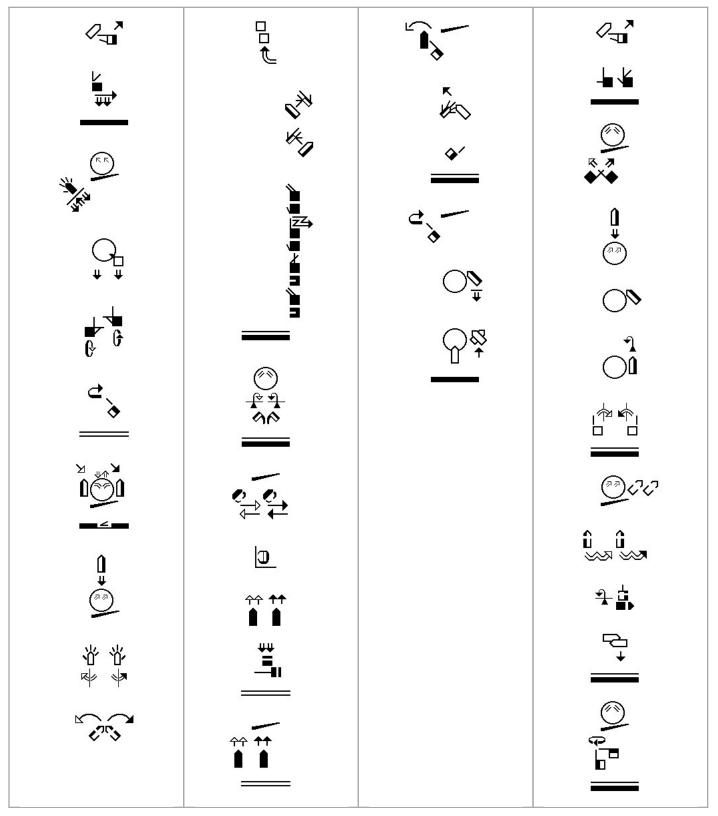


and your old men will dream dreams. Verse 18. In those days I will pour out my Spiriteven on my servants -- men and women alike -- and they will prophesy. Verse 19. And Iwill cause wonders in the heavens above andNLT

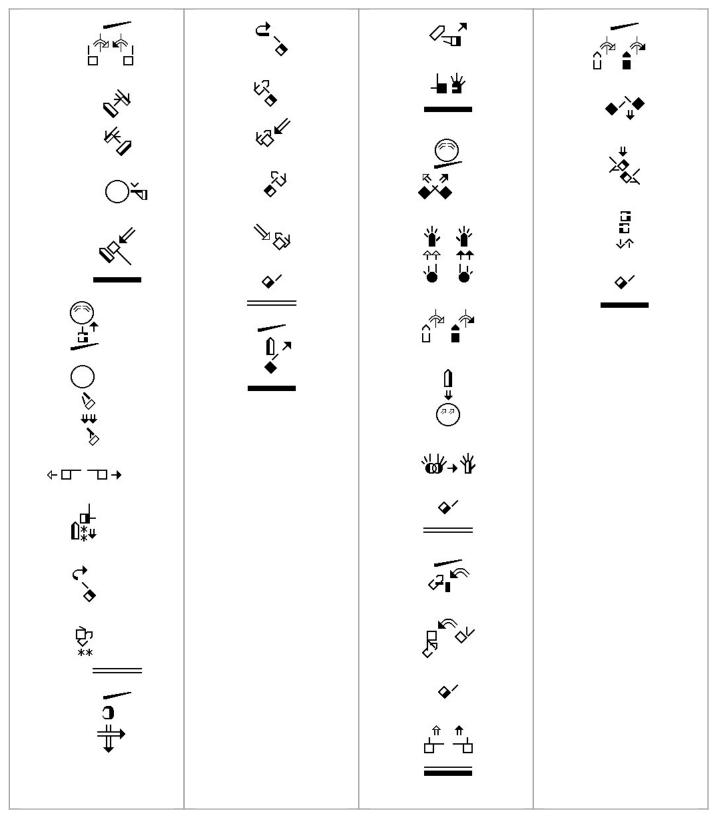


signs on the earth below -- blood and fire and clouds of smoke. Verse 20. The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the LORD arrives. Verse 21. But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.' NLT

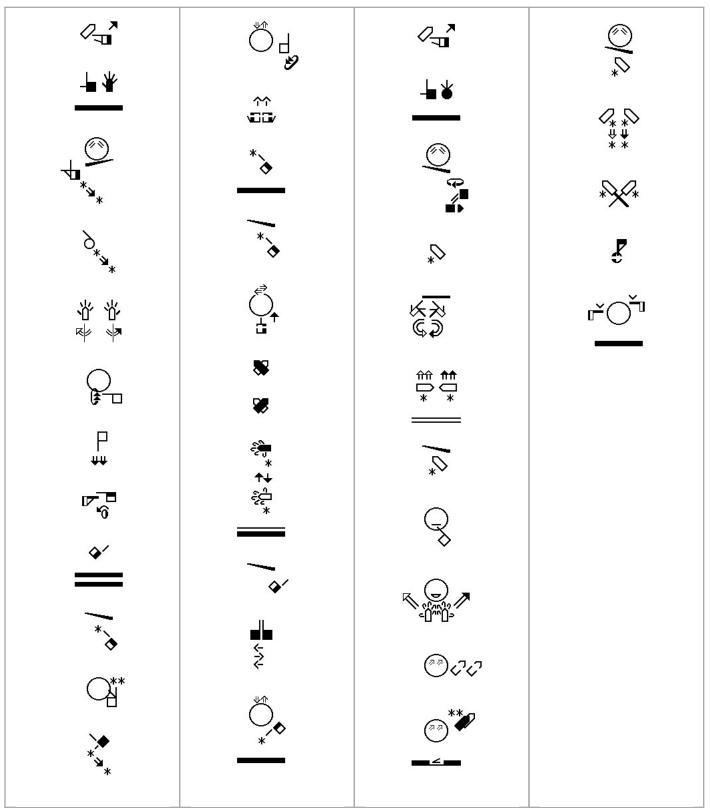
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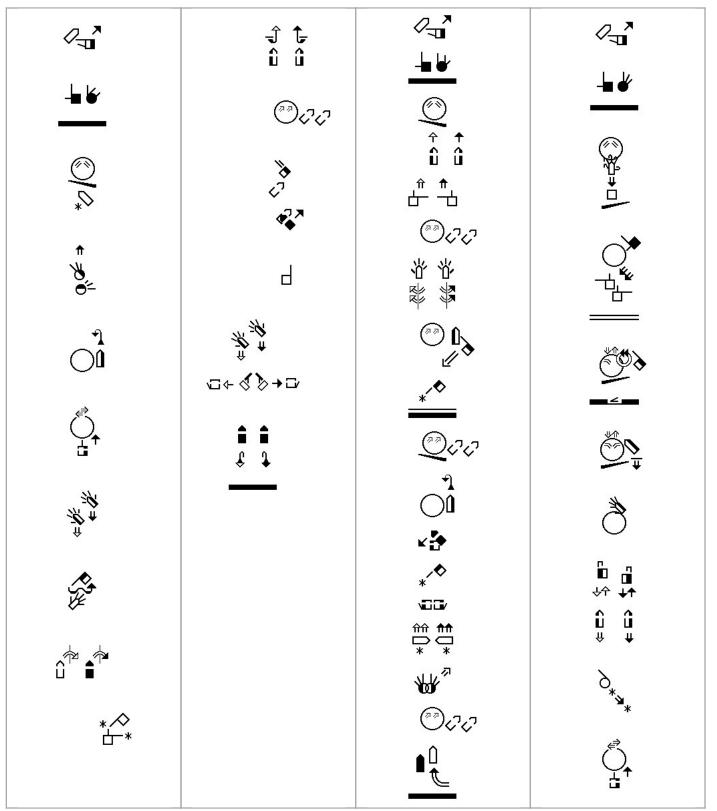
Verse 22. "People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. Verse 23. But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out NLT



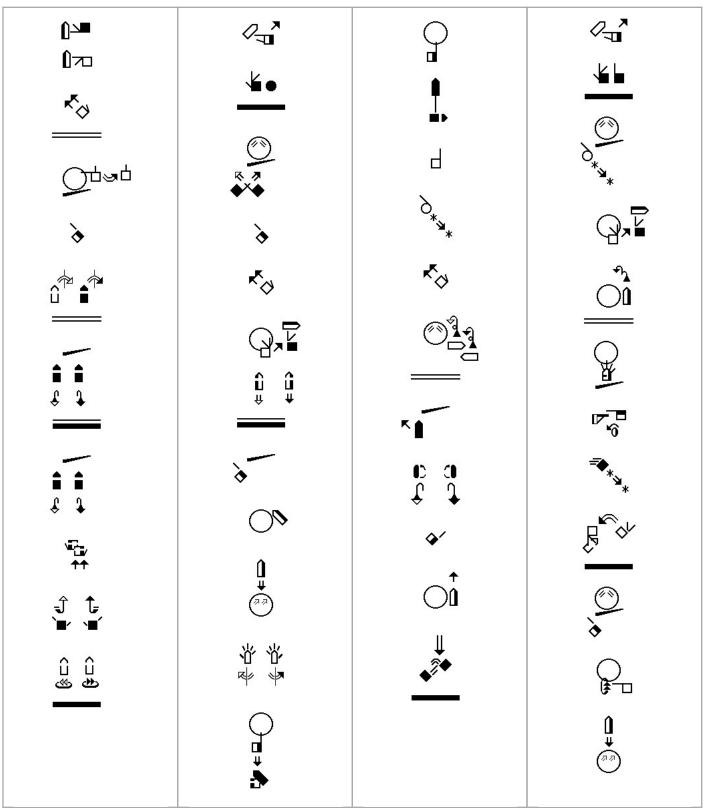
when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross
and killed him. Verse 24. But God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip.



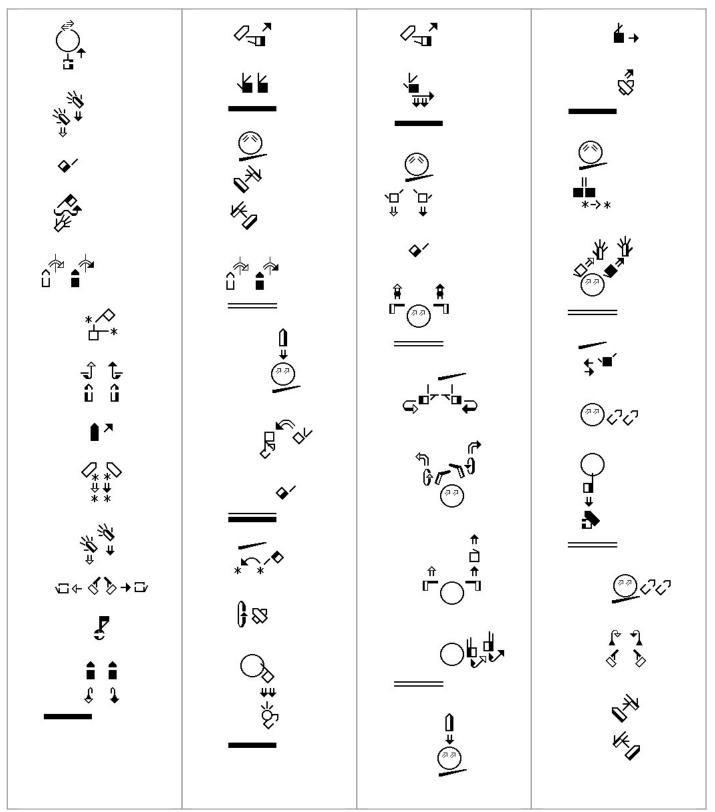
Verse 25. King David said this about him: 'I see that the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. Verse 26. No wonder my heart is glad, and my tongue shouts his praises! My body rests in hope. NLT



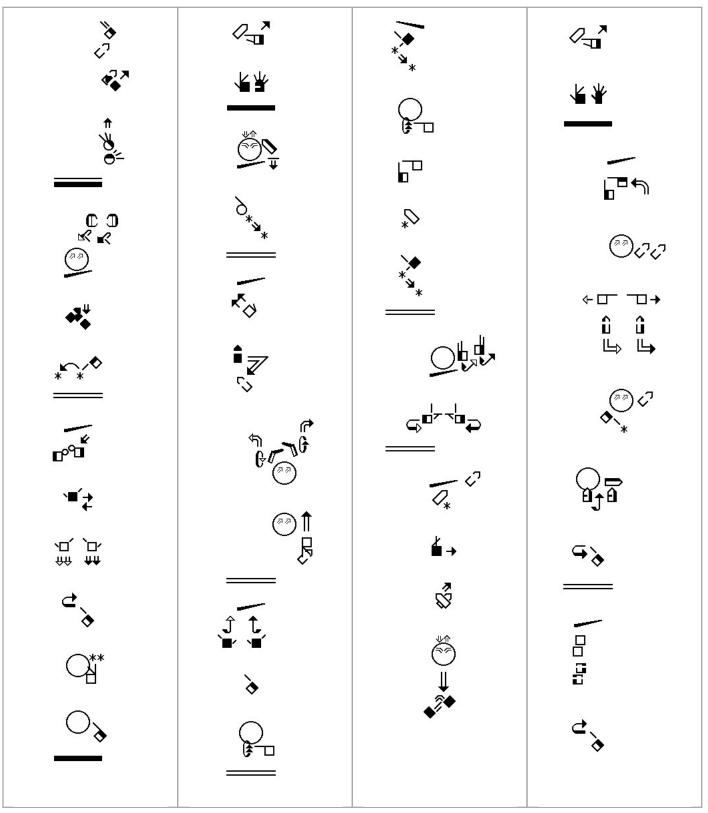
Verse 27. For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave. Verse 28. You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence.' Verse 29. "Dear brothers, think about this! You can be sure that the patriarch David wasn't NLT



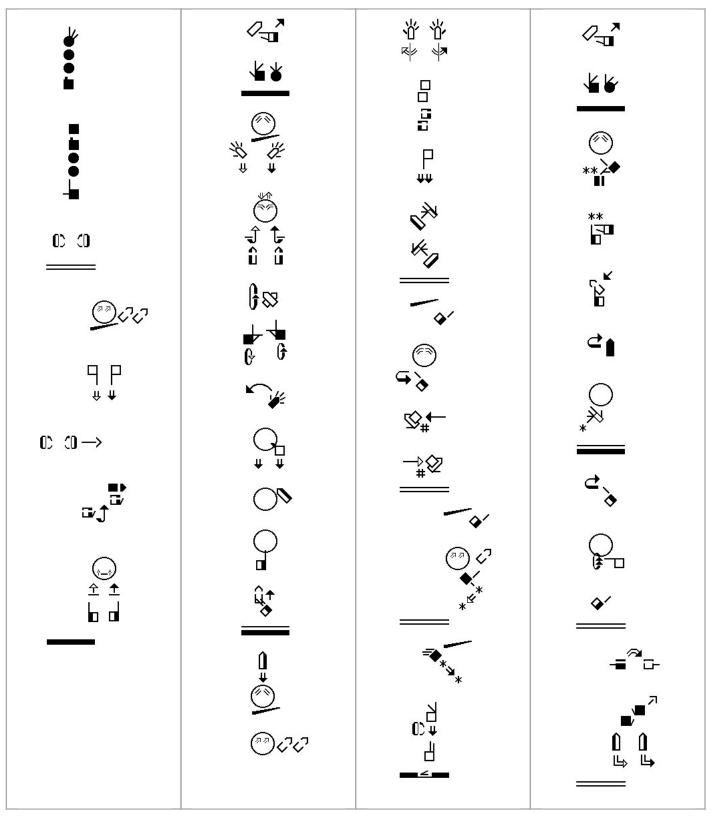
referring to himself, for he died and was buried, and his tomb is still here among us. Verse 30. But he was a prophet, and he knew God had promised with an oath that one of David's own descendants would sit on his throne. Verse 31. David was looking into the future and speaking of the Messiah's resurrection. He was saying that God NLT



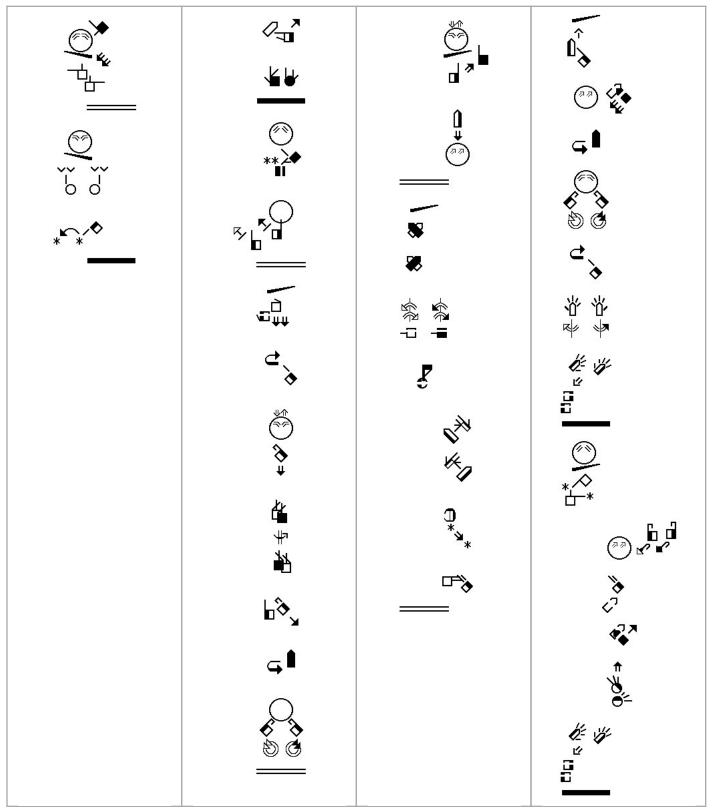
would not leave him among the dead or allow his body to rot in the grave. Verse 32. "God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Verse 33. Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him NLT



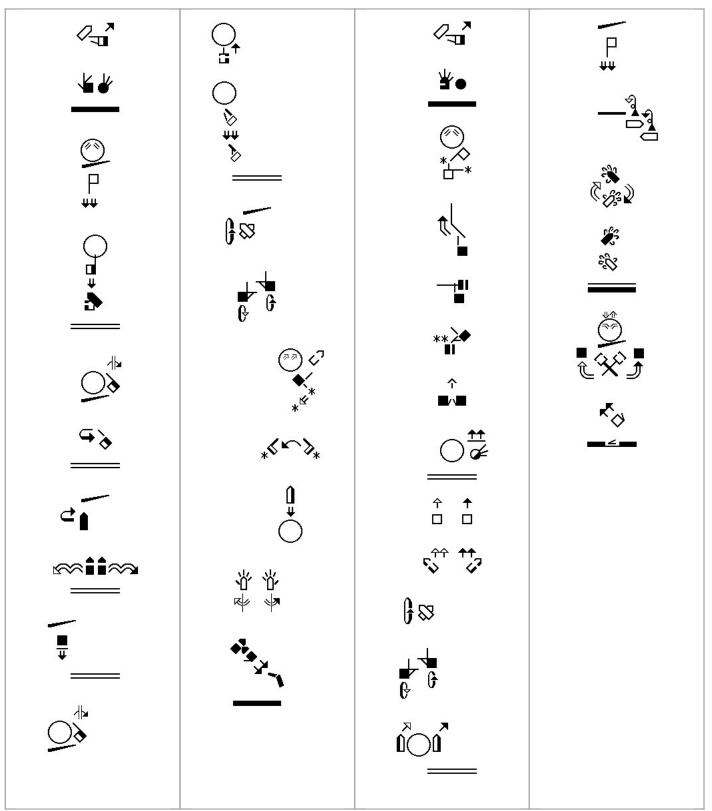
the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. Verse 34. For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit in the place of honor at my right hand Verse 35. until I humble your enemies, making them NLT



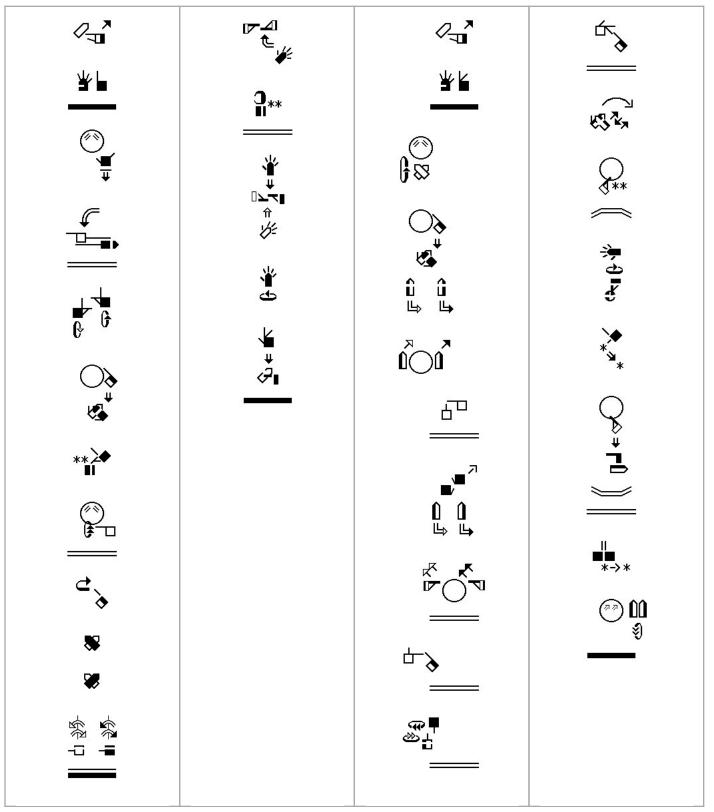
a footstool under your feet."' Verse 36. "So let everyone in Israel know for certain that
God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!" Verse 37.
Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, NLT



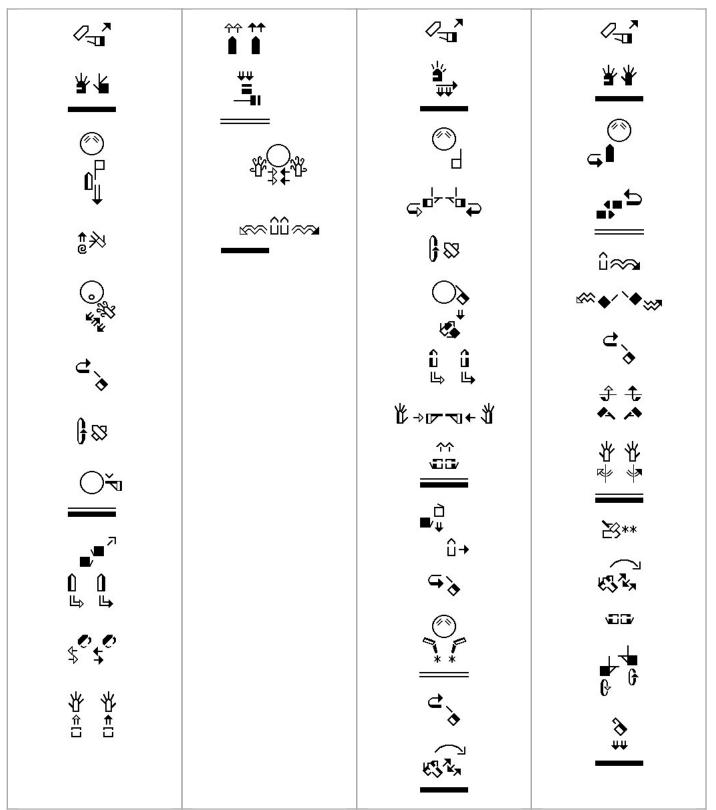
"Brothers, what should we do?" Verse 38. Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins, turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to show that you have received forgiveness for your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. NLT



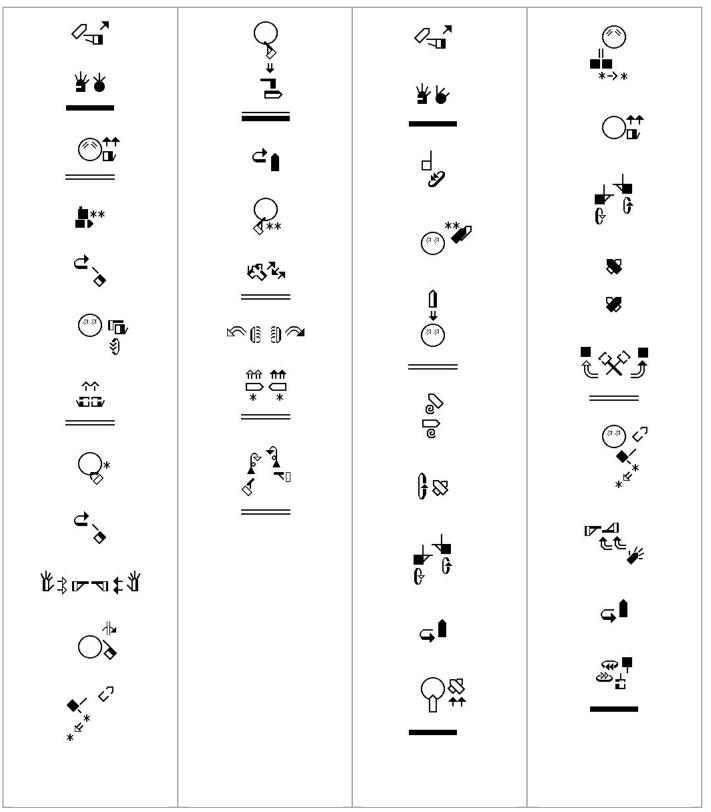
Verse 39. This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles -- all who have been called by the Lord our God." Verse 40. Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!" NLT



Verse 41. Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day -- about 3,000 in all. Verse 42. All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.



Verse 43. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. Verse 44. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. Verse 45. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.



Verse 46. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity -- Verse 47. all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. NLT