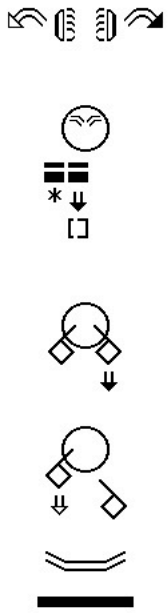
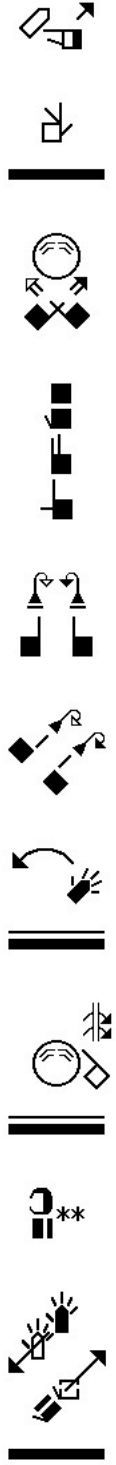
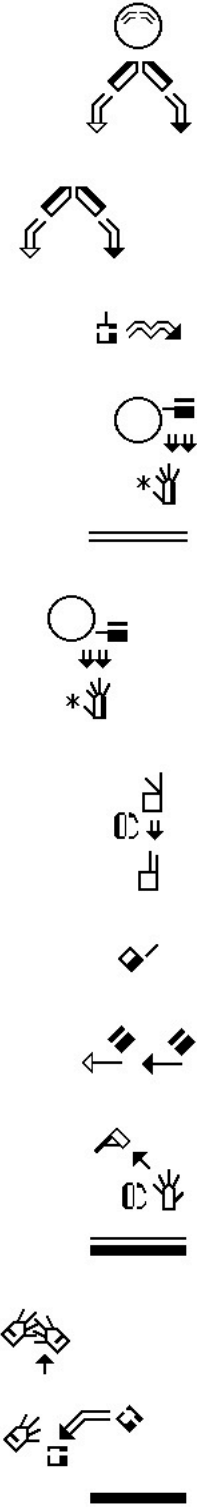
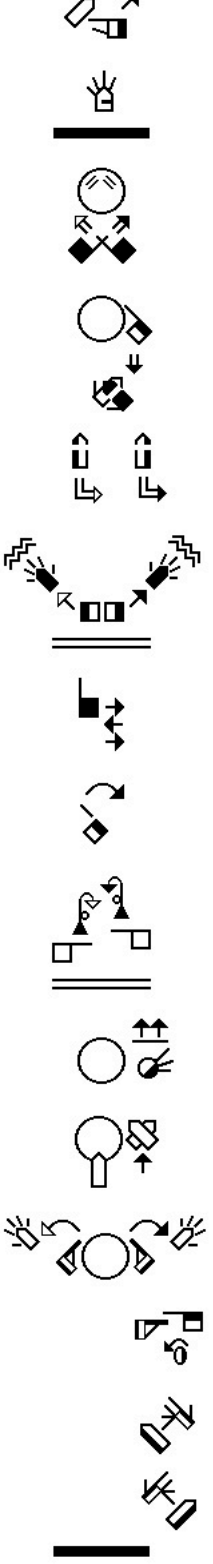


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Chapter 8. Saul was one of the witnesses, and he agreed completely with the killing of Stephen. A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and all the believers except the apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria. Verse 2. (Some devout men came and buried Stephen NLT





































































































			
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with great mourning.) Verse 3. But Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church. He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into prison. Verse 4. But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went.

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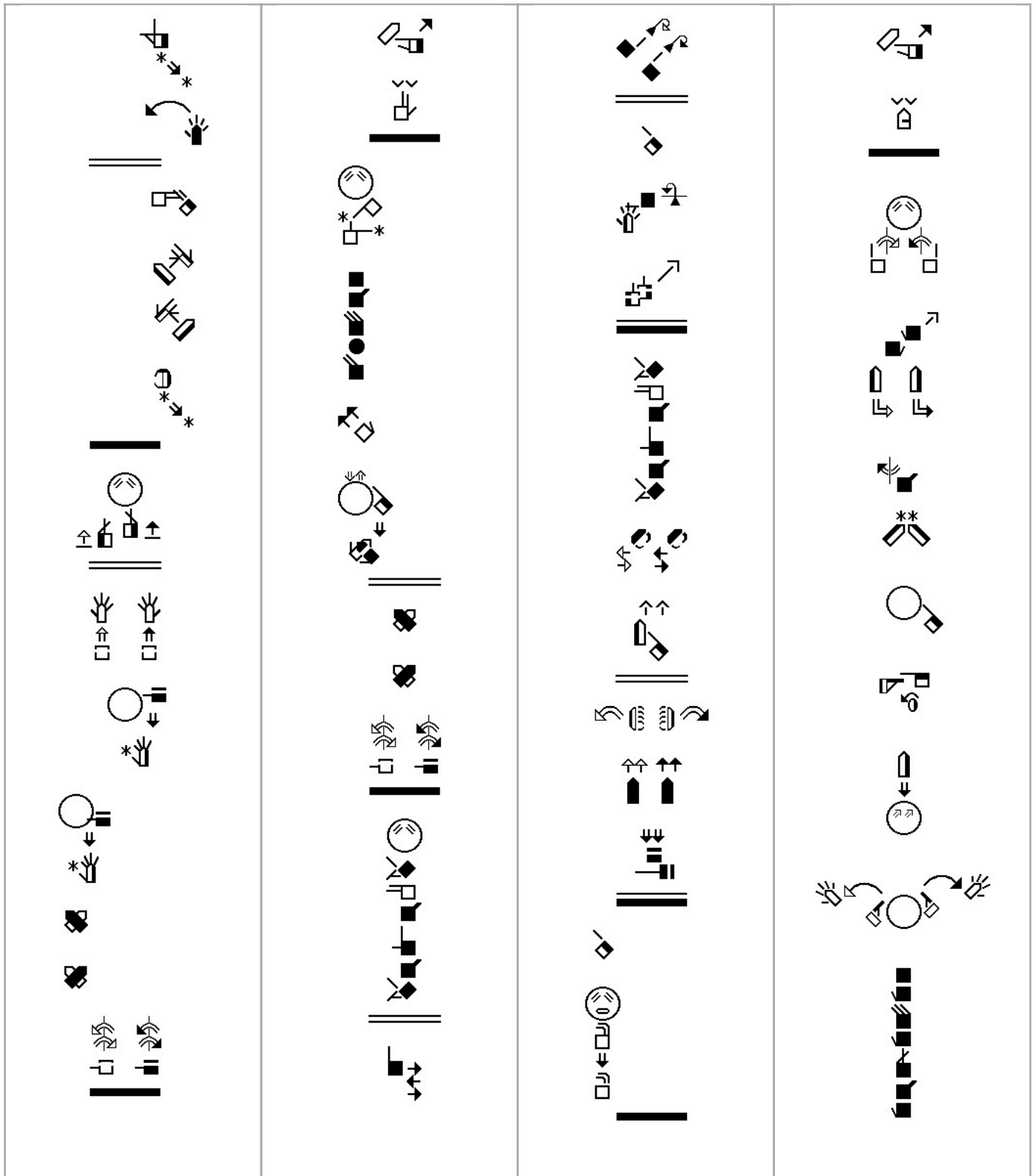
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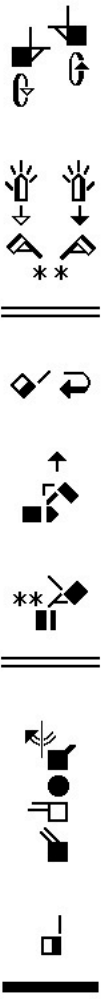

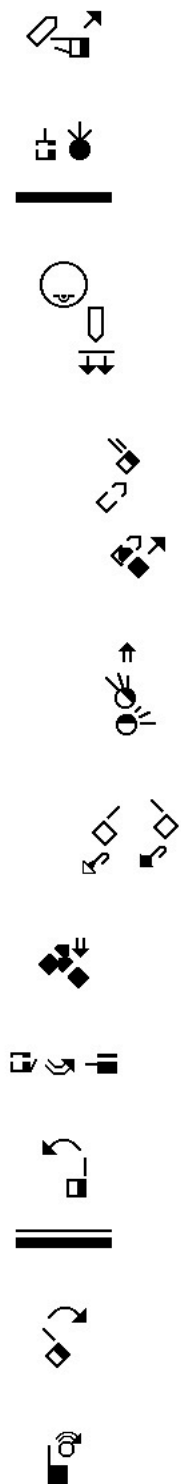
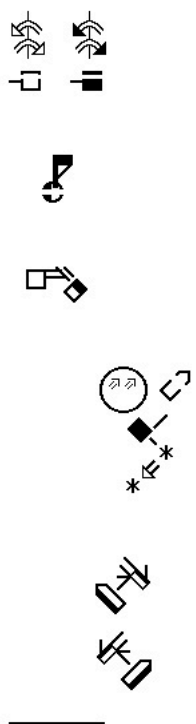
Verse 10. Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as "the Great One -- the Power of God." Verse 11. They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic. Verse 12. But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning

NLT



131 the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized. Verse 13. Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed. Verse 14. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria

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had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. Verse 15. As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. Verse 16. The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

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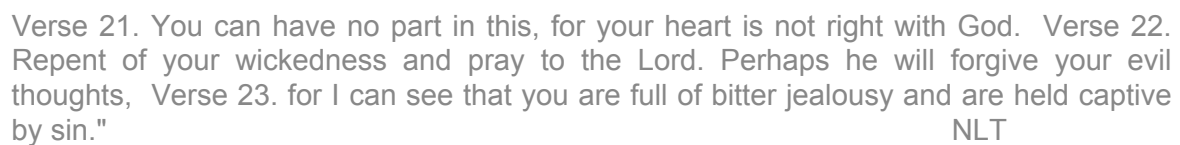
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Verse 17. Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit. Verse 18. When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. NLT

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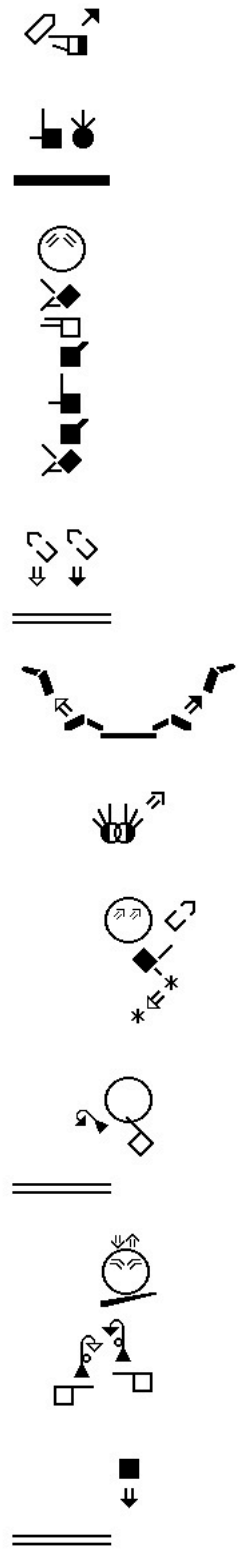
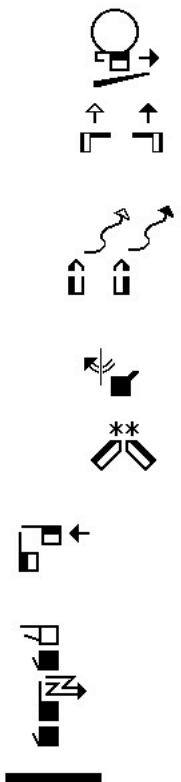
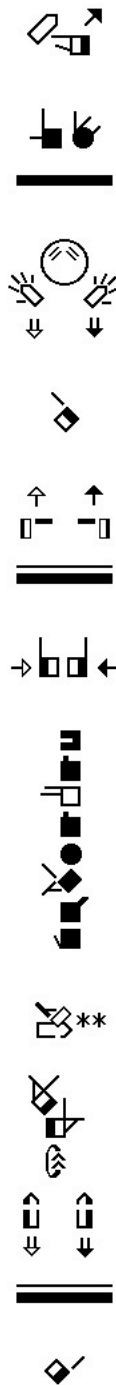
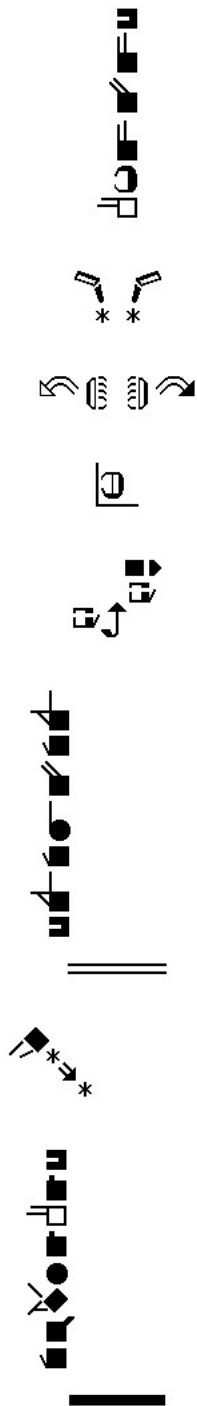
Verse 19. "Let me have this power, too," he exclaimed, "so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!" Verse 20. But Peter replied, "May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God's gift can be bought!"

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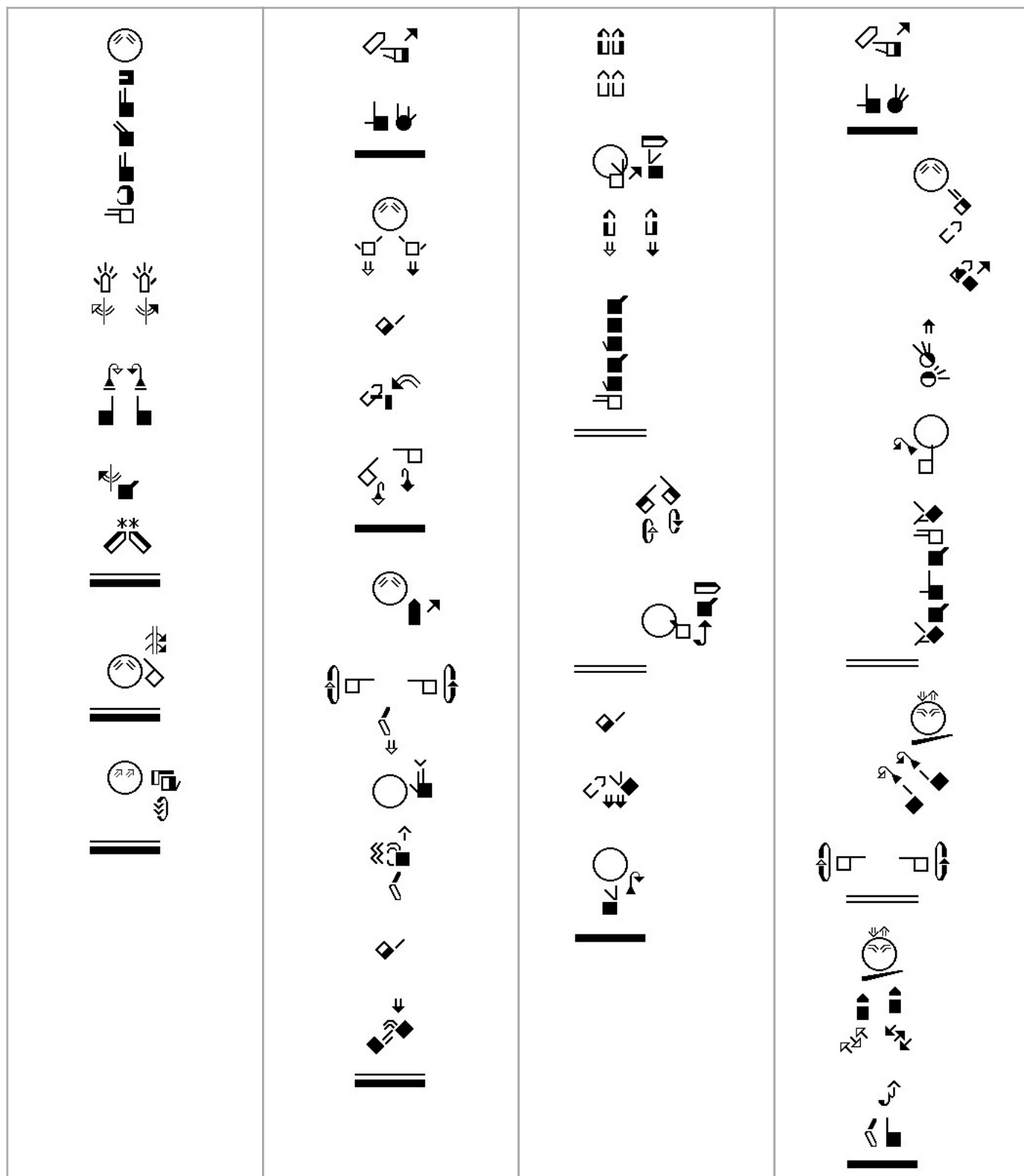
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Verse 24. "Pray to the Lord for me," Simon exclaimed, "that these terrible things you've said won't happen to me!" Verse 25. After testifying and preaching the word of the Lord in Samaria, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem. And they stopped in many Samaritan villages along the way to preach the Good News.

			
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Verse 26. As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, "Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza." Verse 27. So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia.

NLT



The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, Verse 28. and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. Verse 29. The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and walk along beside the carriage." NLT

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Verse 30. Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" Verse 31. The man replied, "How can I, unless someone instructs me?" And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him.

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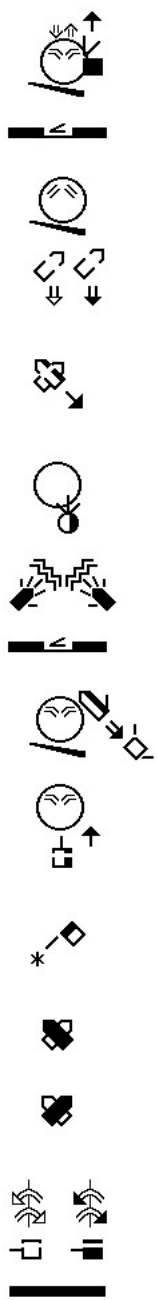
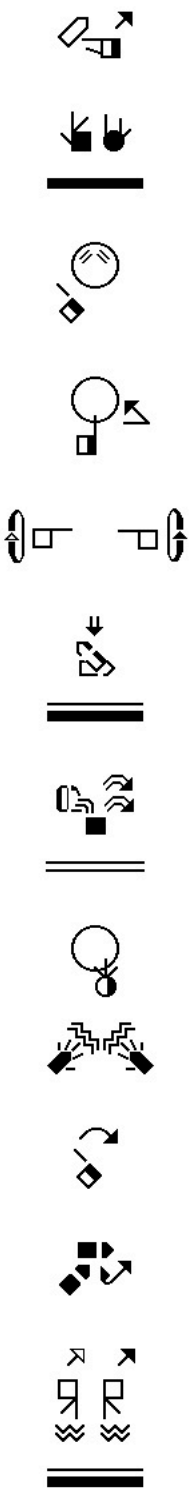
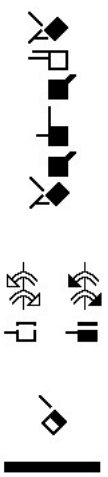
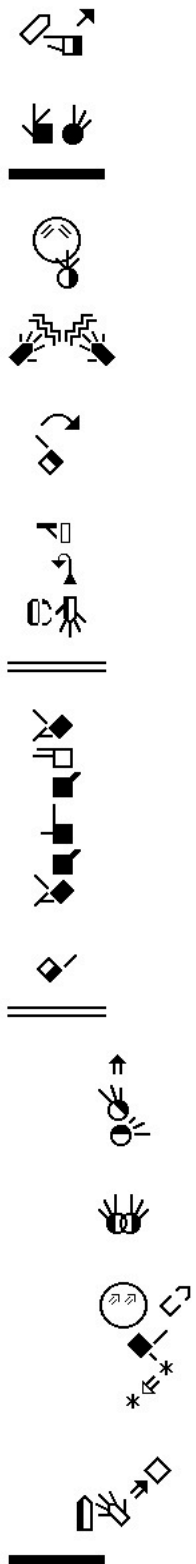
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Verse 32. The passage of Scripture he had been reading was this: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter. And as a lamb is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. Verse 33. He was humiliated and received no justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

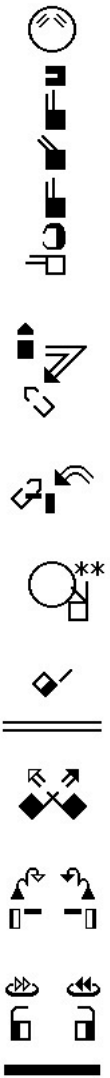

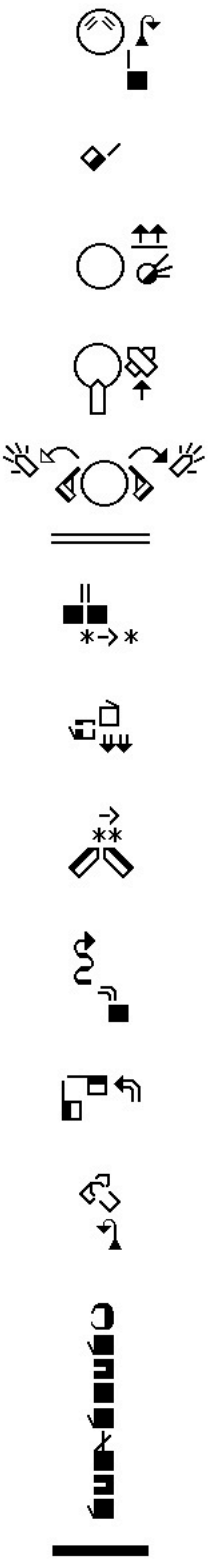
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Verse 34. The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?" Verse 35. So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. Verse 36. As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said,

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"Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?" (*Note: no verse 37 in NLT)
 Verse 38. He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip
 baptized him. Verse 39. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord
 snatched Philip away. NLT

			
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