








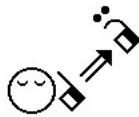












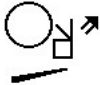















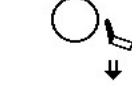














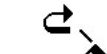

















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Chapter 4. King Nebuchadnezzar sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world: "Peace and prosperity to you! Verse 2. "I want you all to know about the miraculous signs and wonders the Most High God has performed for me.

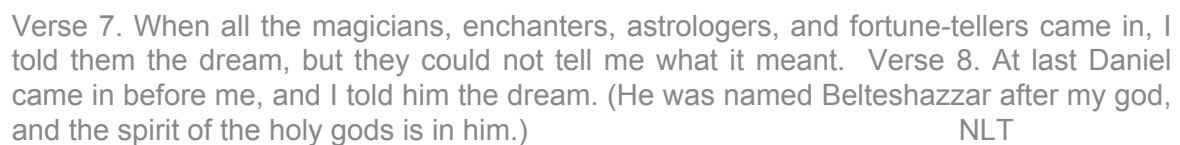
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Verse 5. But one night I had a dream that frightened me; I saw visions that terrified me as I lay in my bed. Verse 6. So I issued an order calling in all the wise men of Babylon, so they could tell me what my dream meant.

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Verse 9. "I said to him, 'Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and that no mystery is too great for you to solve. Now tell me what my dream means. Verse 10. "While I was lying in my bed, this is what I dreamed. I saw a large tree in the middle of the earth.

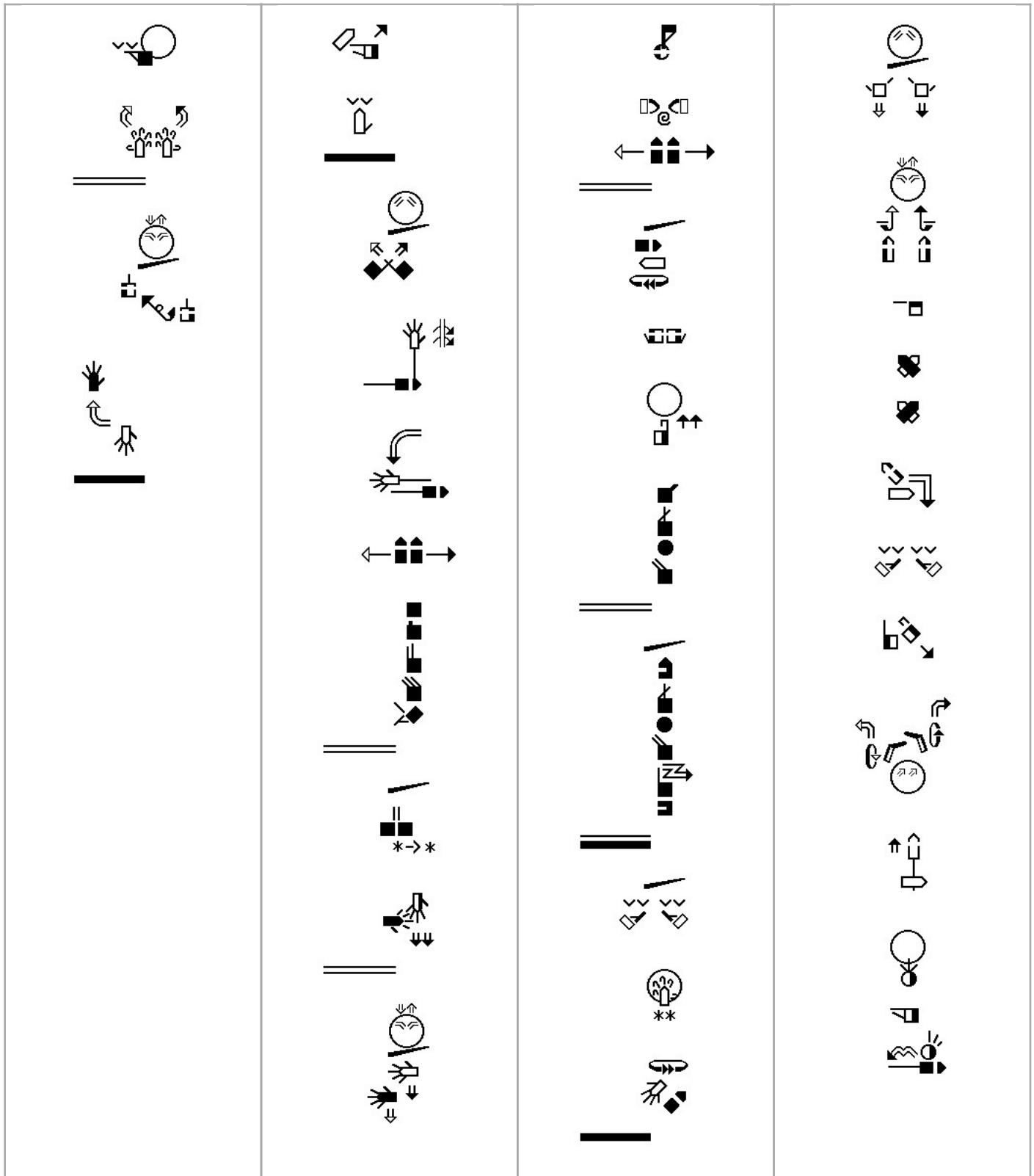
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Verse 11. The tree grew very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens for all the world to see. Verse 12. It had fresh green leaves, and it was loaded with fruit for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. All the world was fed from this tree.

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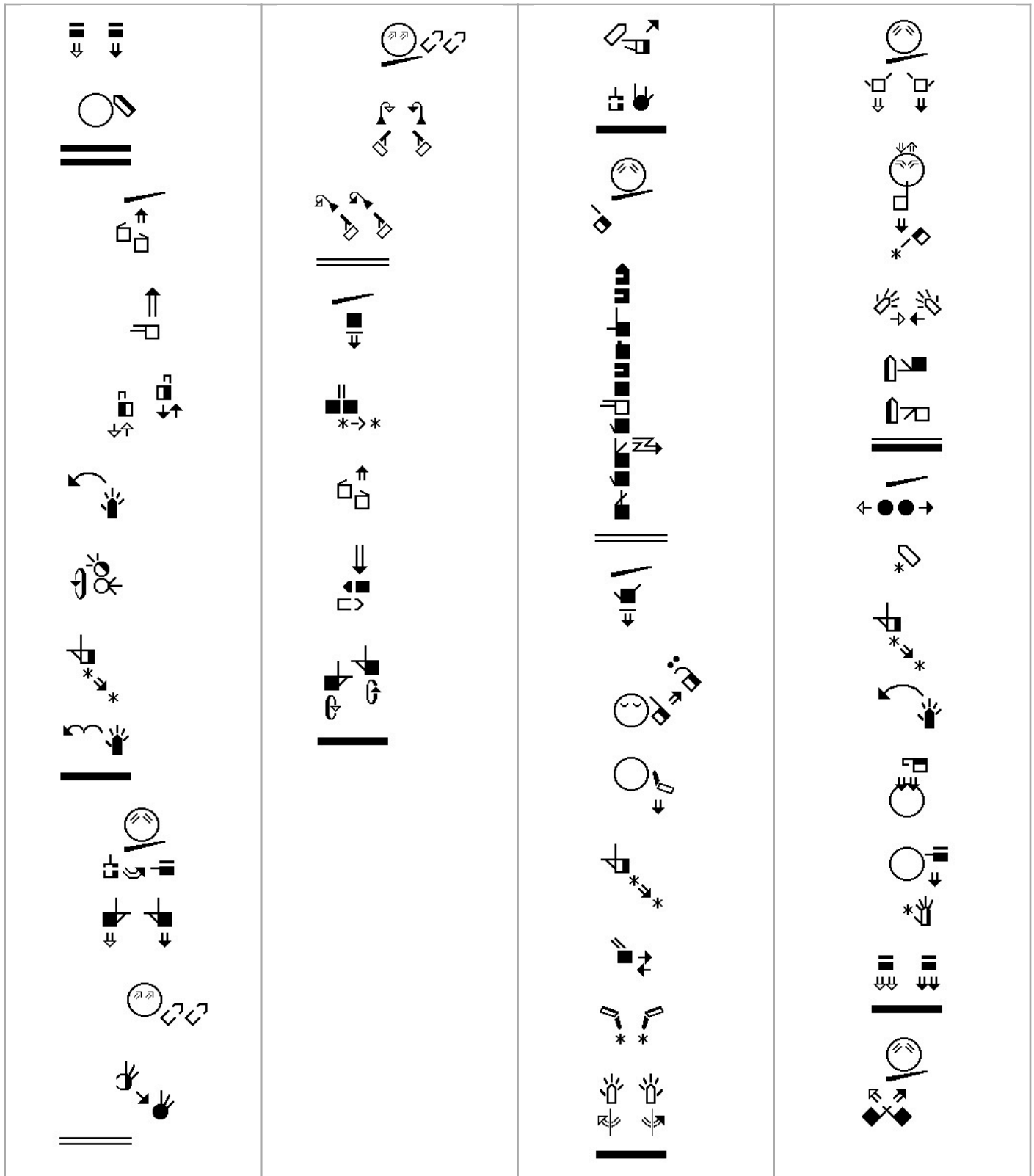
65 from its shade and the birds from its branches. Verse 15. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass. Now let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, NLT



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and let him live with the wild animals among the plants of the field. Verse 16. For seven periods of time, let him have the mind of a wild animal instead of the mind of a human. Verse 17. For this has been decreed by the messengers; it is commanded by the holy ones, so that everyone

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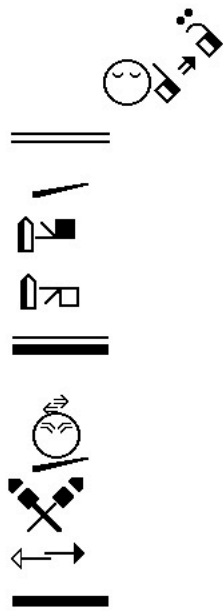
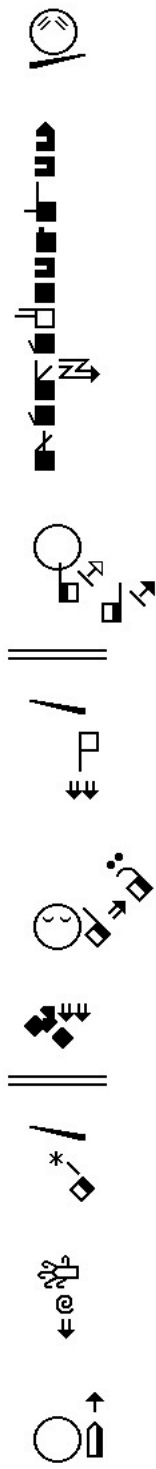
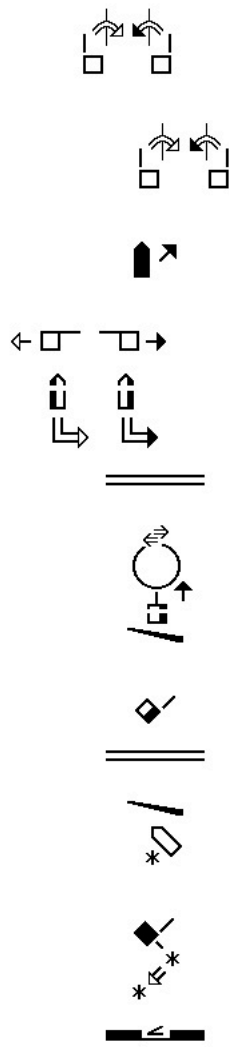
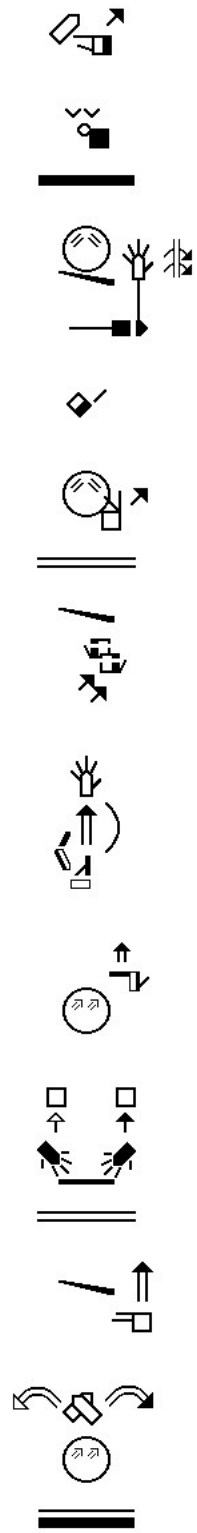


may know that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world. He gives them to anyone he chooses -- even to the lowliest of people." Verse 18. "Belteshazzar, that was the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, had. Now tell me what it means, for none of the wise men of my kingdom can do so. But

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you can tell me because the spirit of the holy gods is in you.' Verse 19. "Upon hearing this, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) was overcome for a time, frightened by the meaning of the dream. Then the king said to him, 'Belteshazzar, don't be alarmed by the NLT

			
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dream and what it means.' "Belteshazzar replied, 'I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you! Verse 20. The tree you saw was growing very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens

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for all the world to see. Verse 21. It had fresh green leaves and was loaded with fruit  
 for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. Verse 22.  
 That tree, Your Majesty, is you. For you have grown strong NLT

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and great; your greatness reaches up to heaven, and your rule to the ends of the earth.  
 Verse 23. "Then you saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, "Cut down the tree and destroy it. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of

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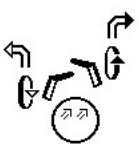
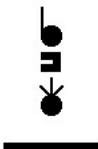

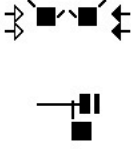

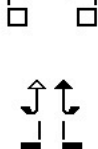









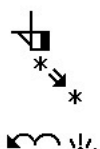
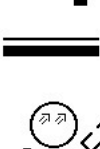
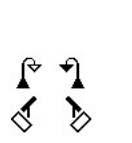
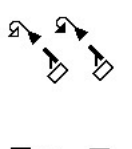
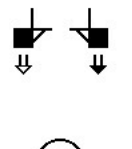



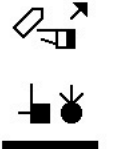

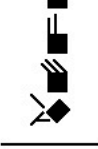
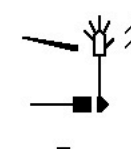
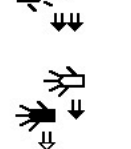
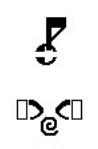



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iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven. Let him live with the animals of the field for seven periods of time." Verse 24. "This is what the dream means, Your Majesty, and what the Most High

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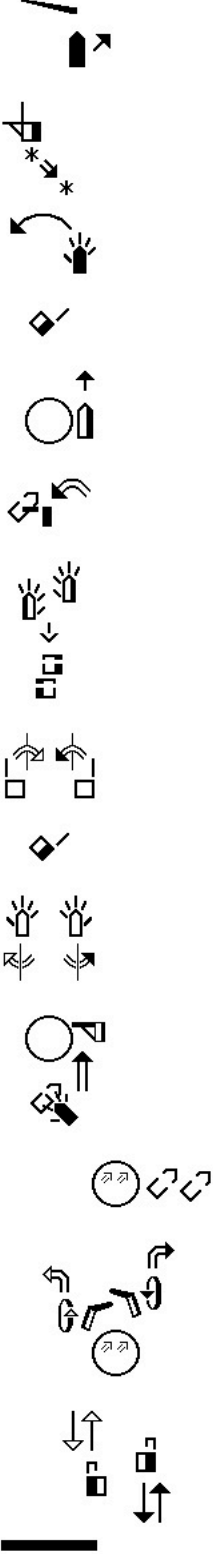
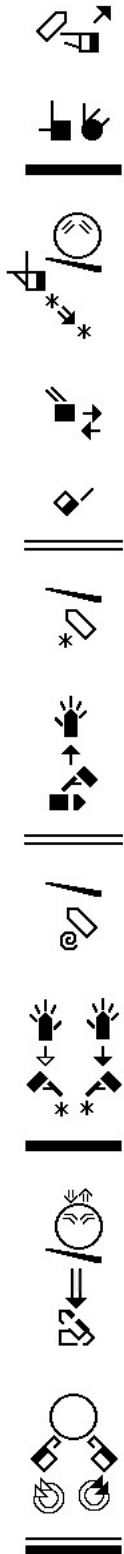
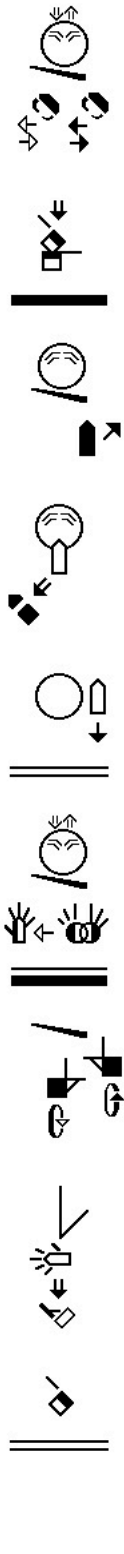
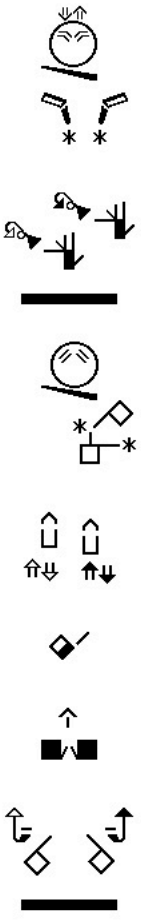
73 has declared will happen to my lord the king. Verse 25. You will be driven from human society, and you will live in the fields with the wild animals. You will eat grass like a cow, and you will be drenched with NLT



        	        	    	        
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the dew of heaven. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses. Verse 26. But the stump and roots of the tree were left in the ground. This means

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that you will receive your kingdom back again when you have learned that heaven rules. Verse 27. "King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.'

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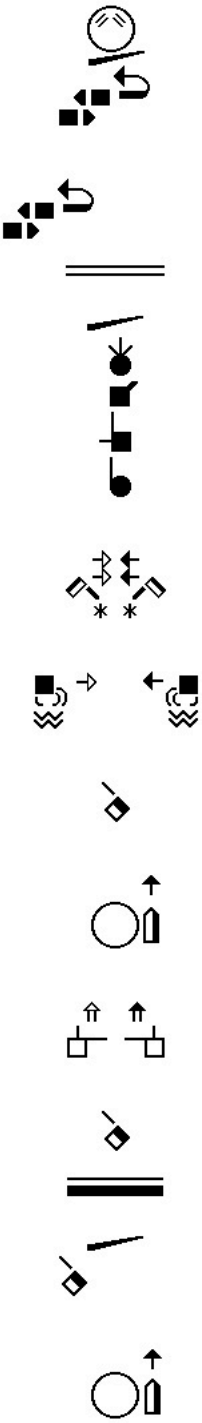

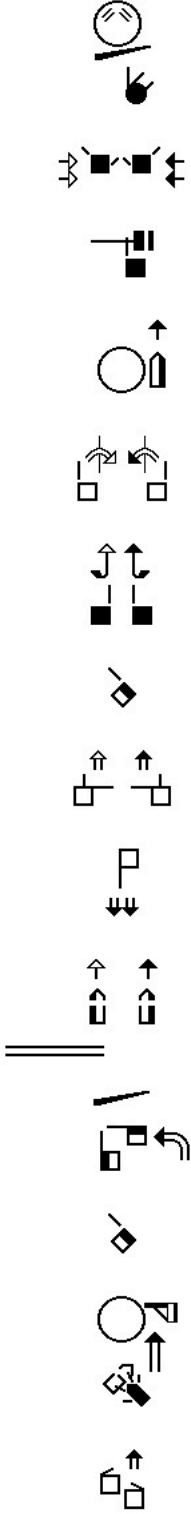
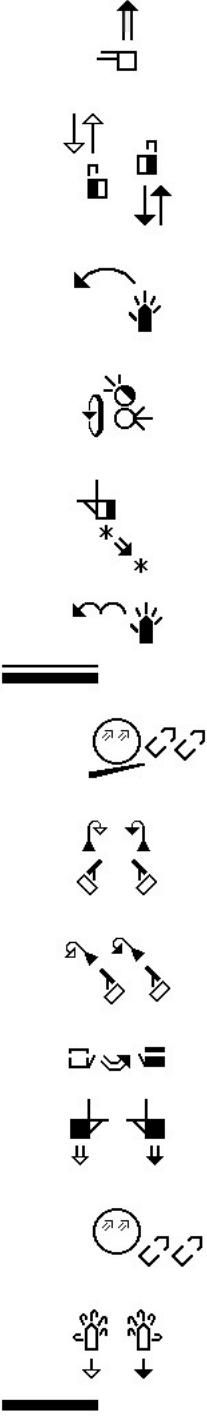
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Verse 28. "But all these things did happen to King Nebuchadnezzar. Verse 29. Twelve months later he was taking a walk on the flat roof of the royal palace in Babylon. Verse 30. As he looked out across the city, he said, 'Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my

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royal residence to display my majestic splendor.' Verse 31. "While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven,'O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. Verse 32. You will be driven from human society.

			
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You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.'

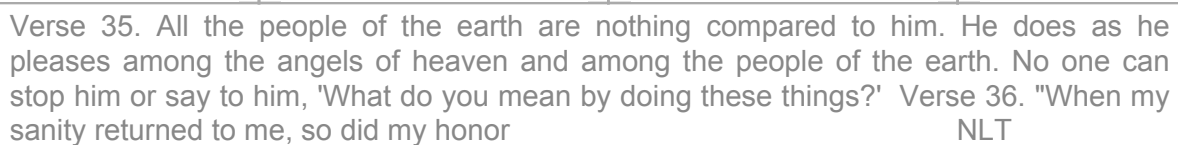
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Verse 33. "That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles' feathers and his nails NLT

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were like birds' claws. Verse 34. "After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. His rule is everlasting and his kingdom is eternal. NLT





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and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before. Verse 37. "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify

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