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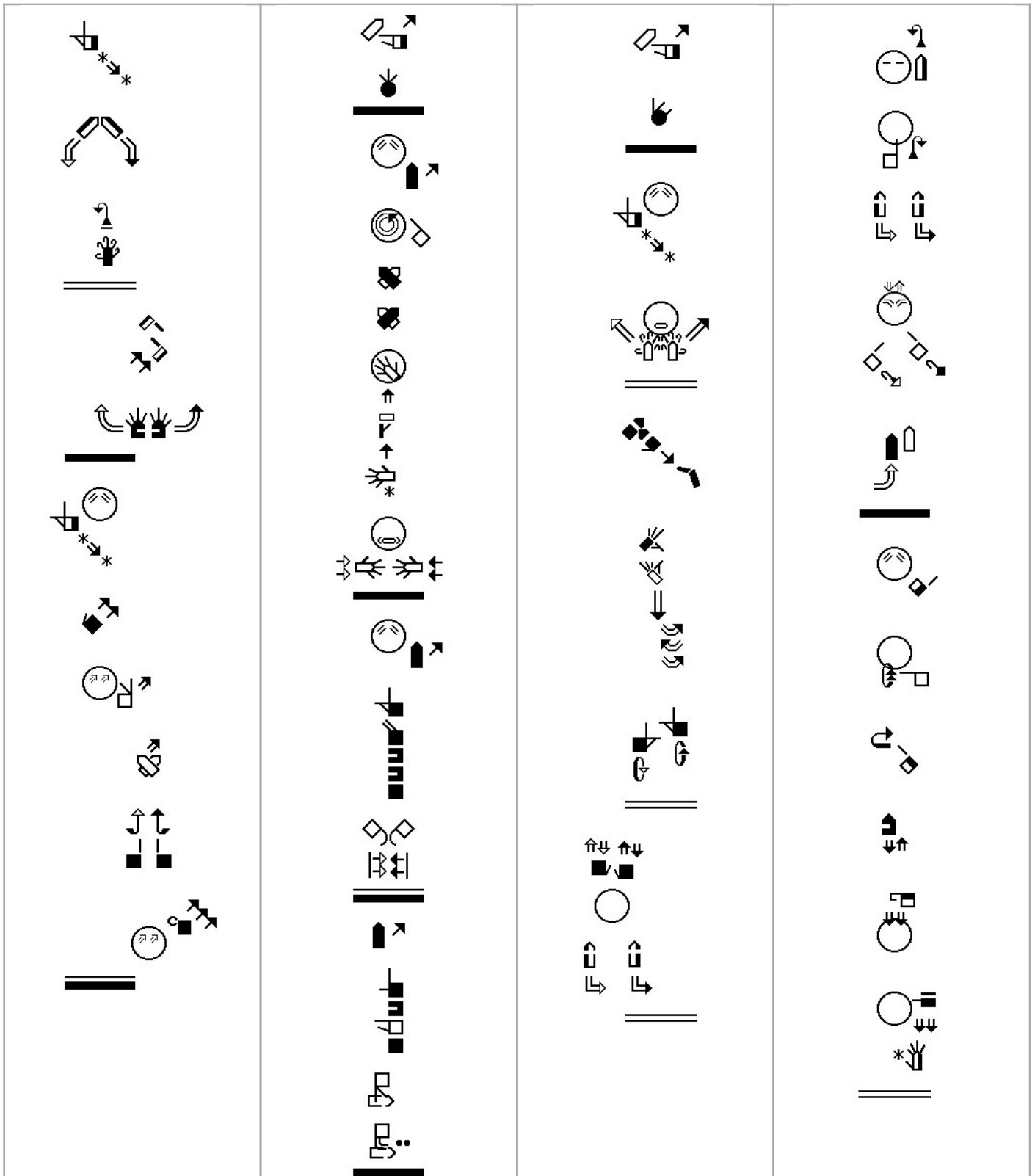
Chapter 5. Many years later King Belshazzar gave a great feast for 1,000 of his nobles, and he drank wine with them. Verse 2. While Belshazzar was drinking the wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver cups that his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. NLT

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concubines drank from them. Verse 4. While they drank from them they praised their idols made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. Verse 5. Suddenly, they saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall

NLT



of the king's palace, near the lampstand. The king himself saw the hand as it wrote, Verse 6. and his face turned pale with fright. His knees knocked together in fear and his legs gave way beneath him. Verse 7. The king shouted for the enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers to be brought before him. He said to these wise men of Babylon, NLT

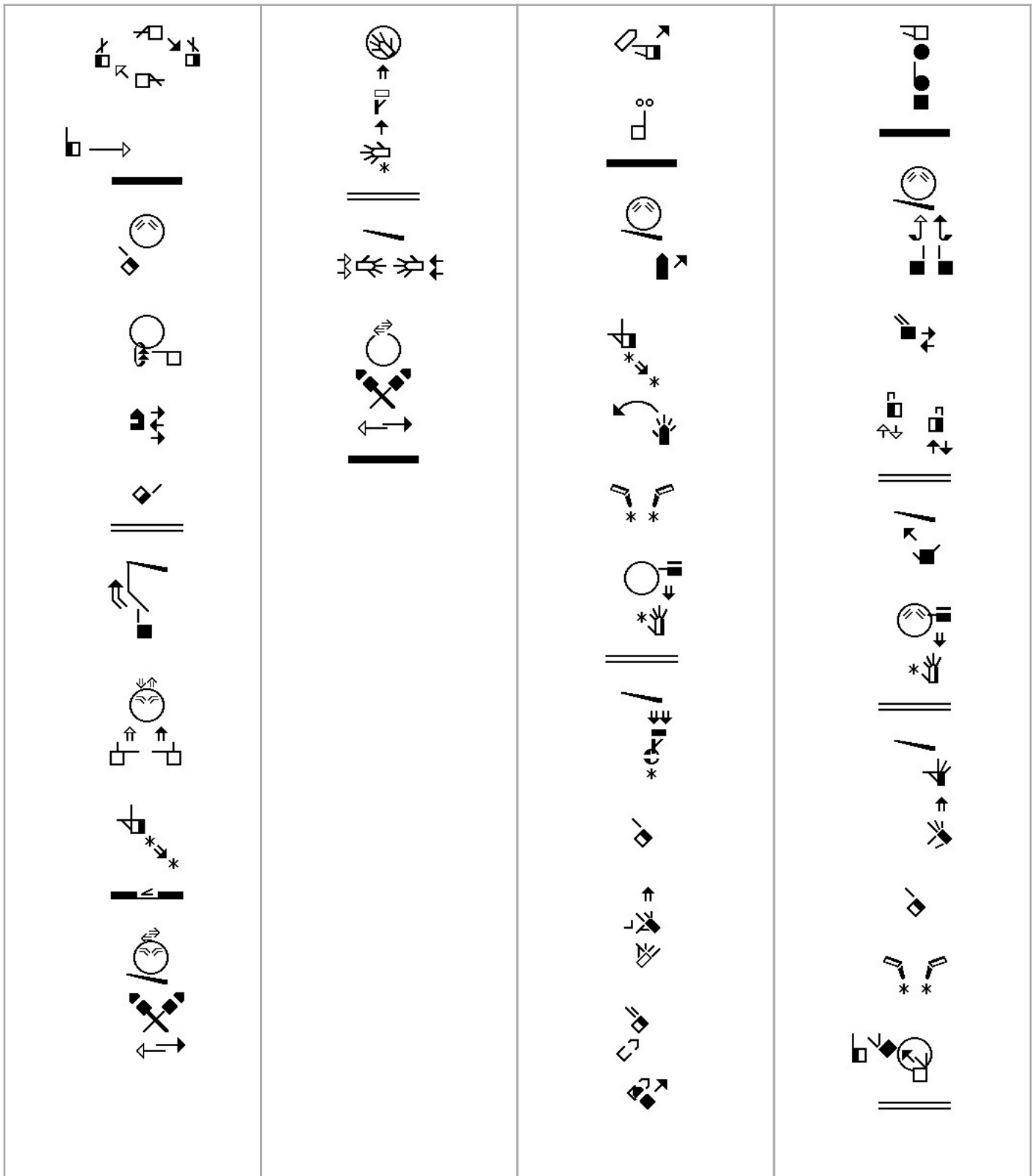
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"Whoever can read this writing and tell me what it means will be dressed in purple robes of royal honor and will have a gold chain placed around his neck. He will become the third highest ruler in the kingdom!" Verse 8. But when all the king's wise men had come in,

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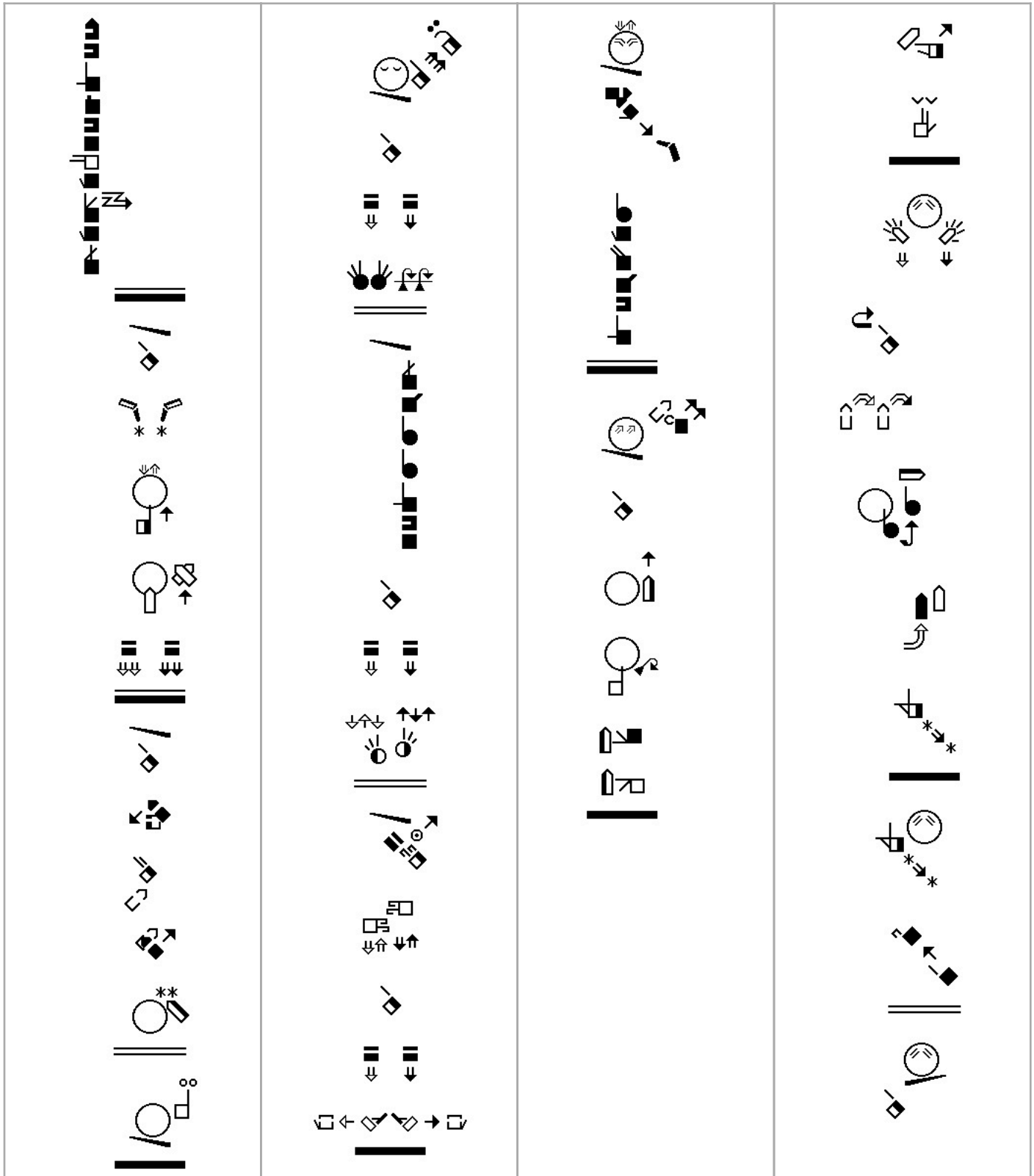
89 none of them could read the writing or tell him what it meant. Verse 9. So the king grew even more alarmed, and his face turned pale. His nobles, too, were shaken. Verse 10. But when the queen mother heard what was happening, she hurried to the banquet NLT



hall. She said to Belshazzar, "Long live the king! Don't be so pale and frightened. Verse 11. There is a man in your kingdom who has within him the spirit of the holy gods. During Nebuchadnezzar's reign, this man was found to have insight,

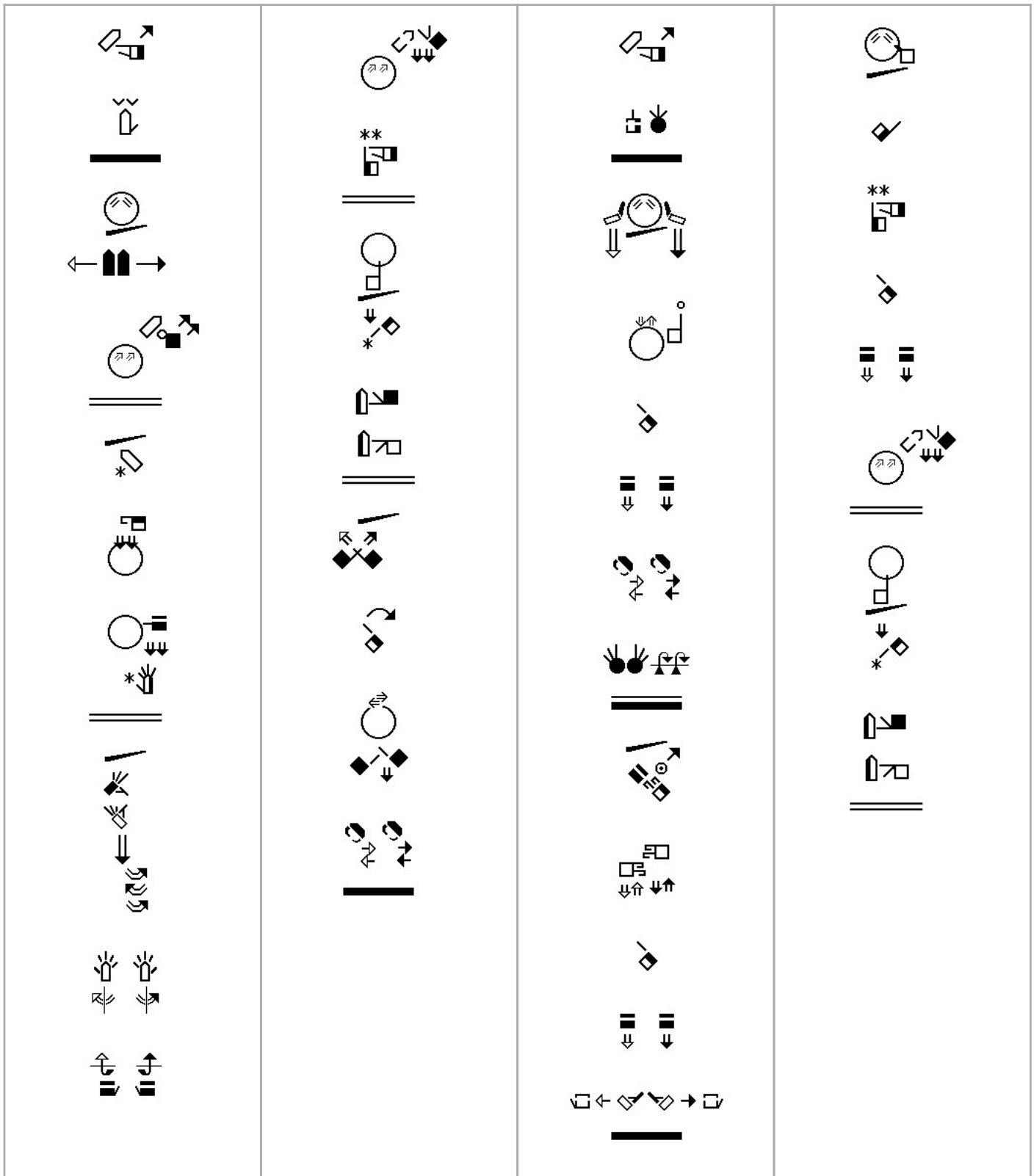
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understanding, and wisdom like that of the gods. Your predecessor, the king -- your predecessor King Nebuchadnezzar -- made him chief over all the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers of Babylon. Verse 12. This man Daniel, whom the king named



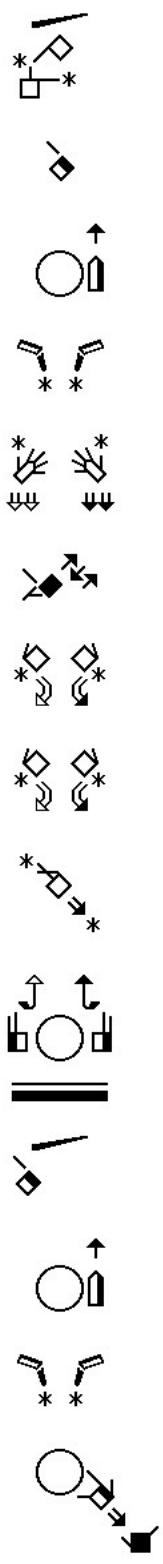
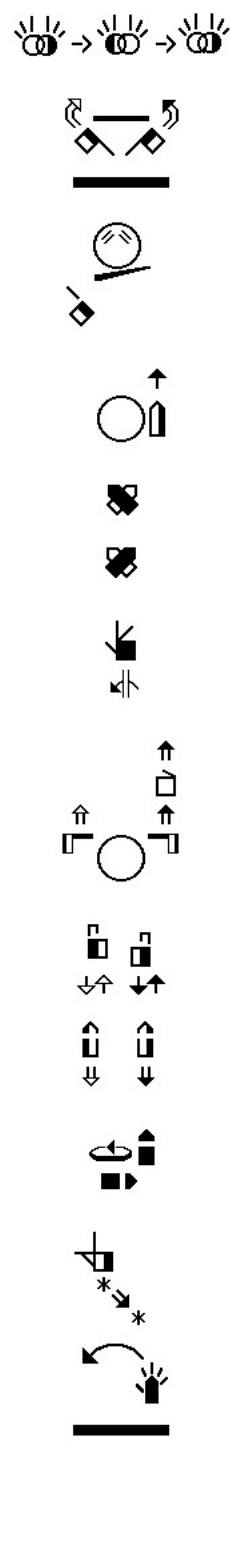
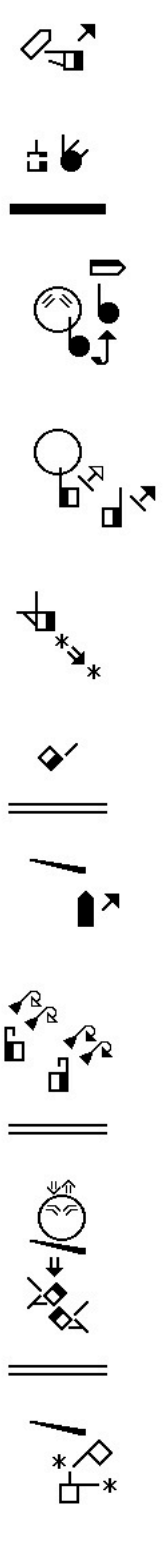
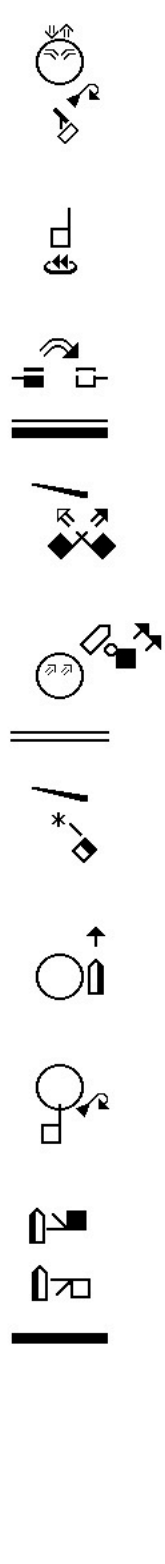
Beltshazzar, has exceptional ability and is filled with divine knowledge and understanding. He can interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve difficult problems. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means." Verse 13. So Daniel was brought in before the king. The king asked him, "Are you NLT

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Verse 15. My wise men and enchanters have tried to read the words on the wall and tell me their meaning, but they cannot do it. Verse 16. I am told that you can give interpretations and solve difficult problems. If you can read these words and tell me their meaning,

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you will be clothed in purple robes of royal honor, and you will have a gold chain placed around your neck. You will become the third highest ruler in the kingdom." Verse 17. Daniel answered the king, "Keep your gifts or give them to someone else, but I will tell you what the writing means. NLT

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Verse 18. Your Majesty, the Most High God gave sovereignty, majesty, glory, and honor to your predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar. Verse 19. He made him so great that people of all races and nations and languages trembled before him in fear. He killed those he wanted to kill and spared those he wanted to spare. NLT

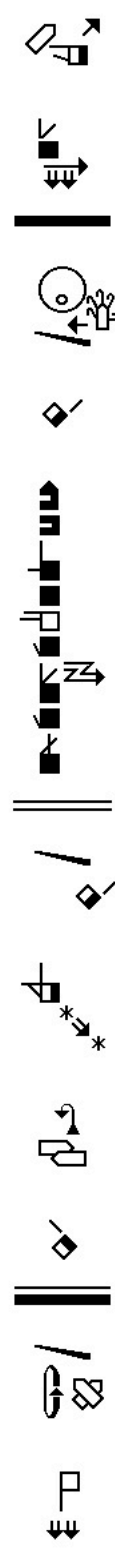
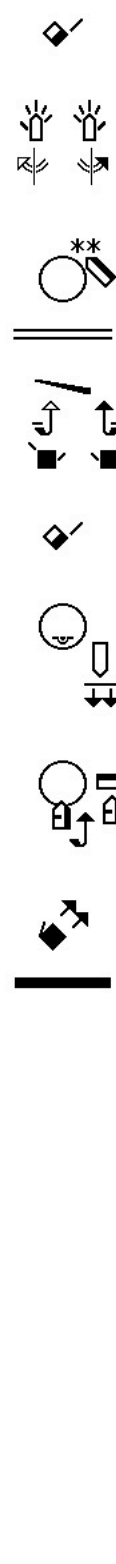
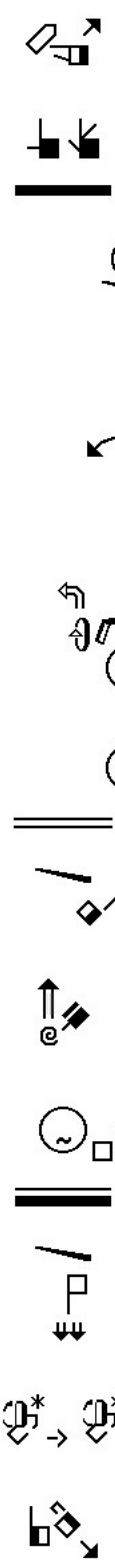

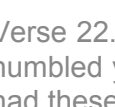
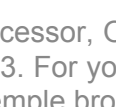
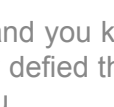
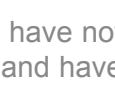
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He honored those he wanted to honor and disgraced those he wanted to disgrace. Verse 20. But when his heart and mind were puffed up with arrogance, he was brought down from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. Verse 21. He was driven from human society. He was given the mind

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of a wild animal, and he lived among the wild donkeys. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdoms of the world and appoints anyone he desires to rule over them. NLT

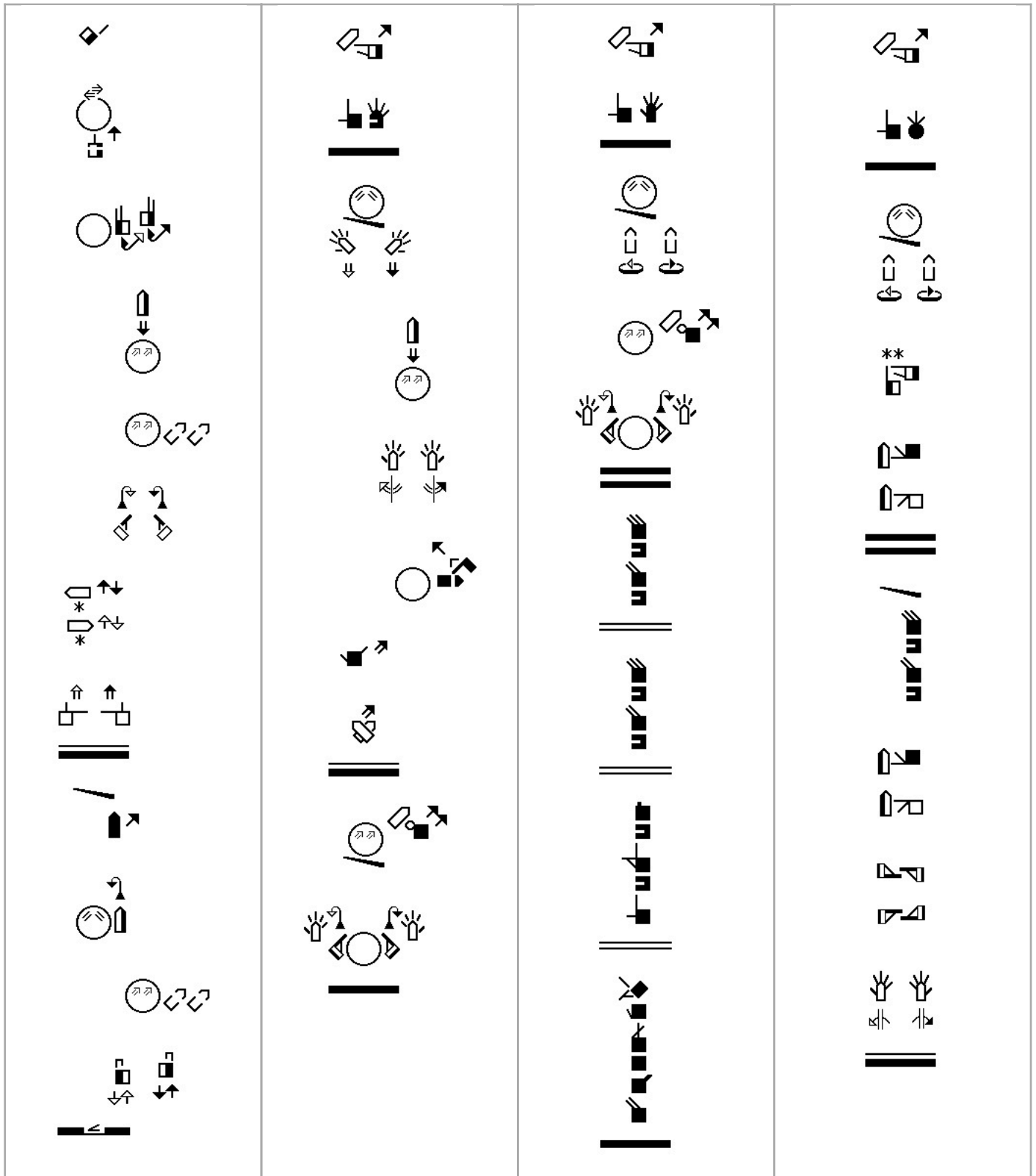
			
			

Verse 22. "You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all this, yet you have not humbled yourself. Verse 23. For you have proudly defied the LORD of heaven and have had these cups from his Temple brought before you. NLT

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You and your nobles and your wives and concubines have been drinking wine from them while praising gods of silver, gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone -- gods that neither see nor hear nor know anything at all. But

NLT



101 you have not honored the God who gives you the breath of life and controls your destiny! Verse 24. So God has sent this hand to write this message. Verse 25. This is the message that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN. Verse 26. This is what these words mean: Mene means 'numbered' -- NLT

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God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end. Verse 27. Tekel means 'weighed' -- you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up. Verse 28. Parsin means 'divided' -- your kingdom has been

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divided and given to the Medes and Persians." Verse 29. Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was dressed in purple robes, a gold chain was hung around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom. Verse 30. That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.

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