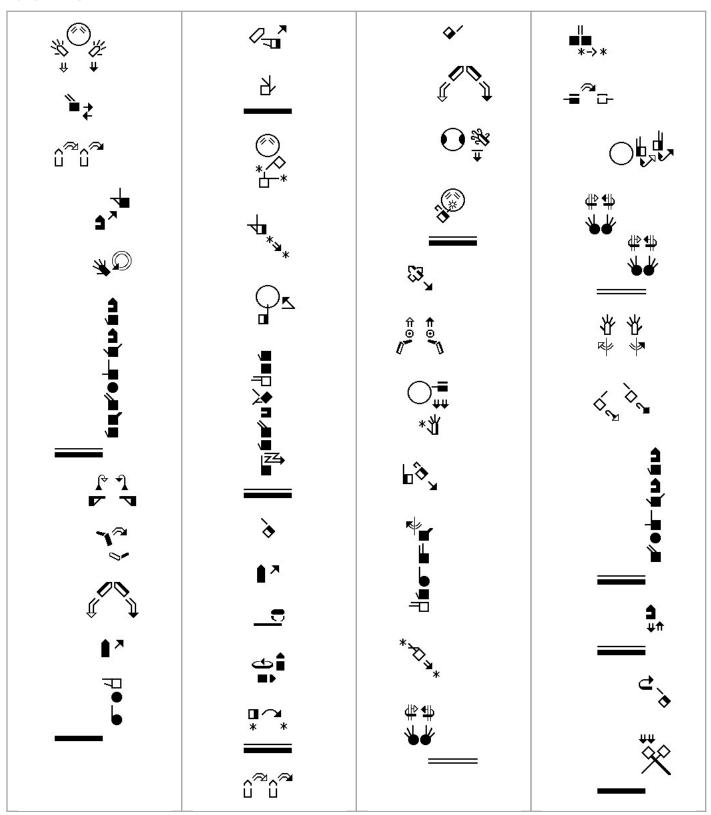
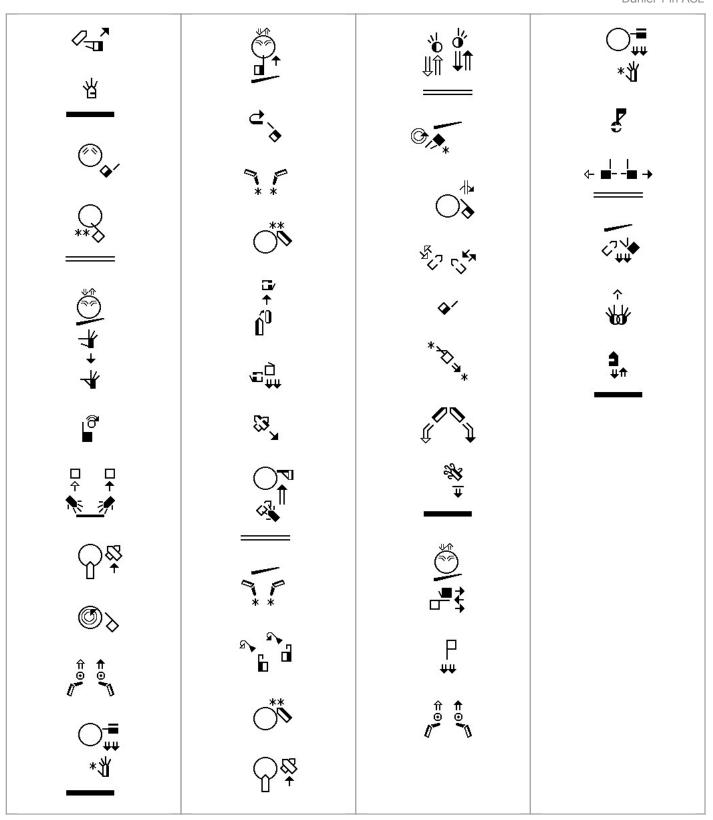


Daniel Chapter 1. During the third year of King Jehoiakim's reign in Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. Verse 2. The LORD gave him victory over King Jehoiakim of Judah and permitted him to take some of the sacred objects from the Temple of God.

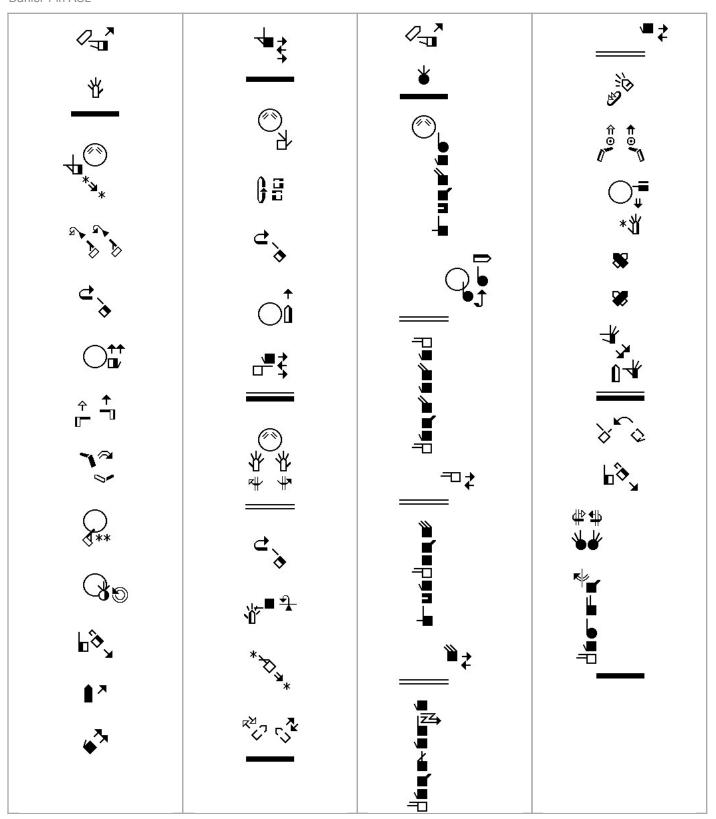
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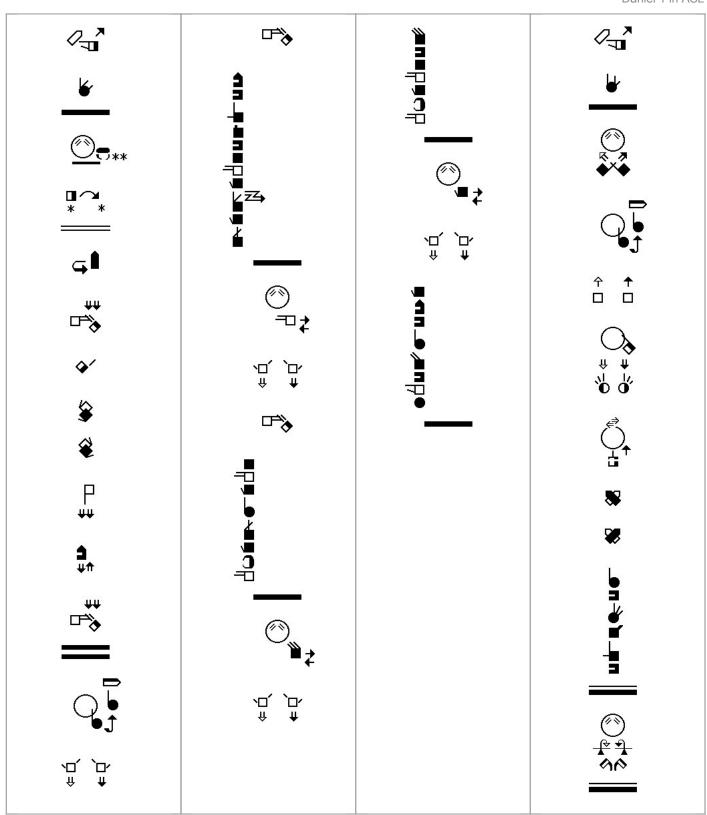
So Nebuchadnezzar took them back to the land of Babylonia and placed them in the treasure-house of his god. Verse 3. Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, his chief of staff, to bring to the palace some of the young men of Judah's royal family and other noble families, who had been brought to Babylon as captives.



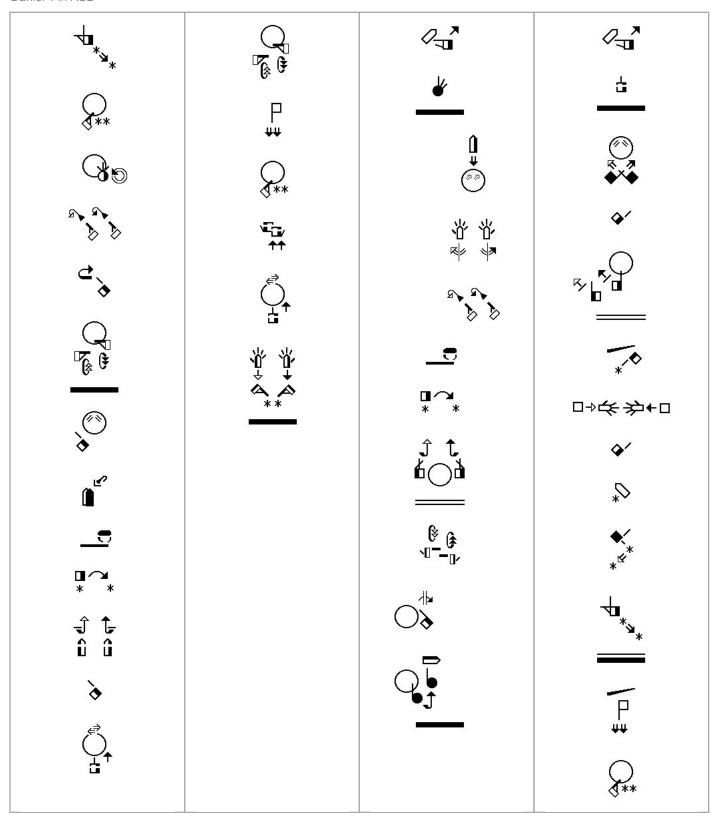
Verse 4. "Select only strong, healthy, and good-looking young men," he said. "Make sure they are well versed in every branch of learning, are gifted with knowledge and good judgment, and are suited to serve in the royal palace. Train these young men in the language and literature of Babylon."



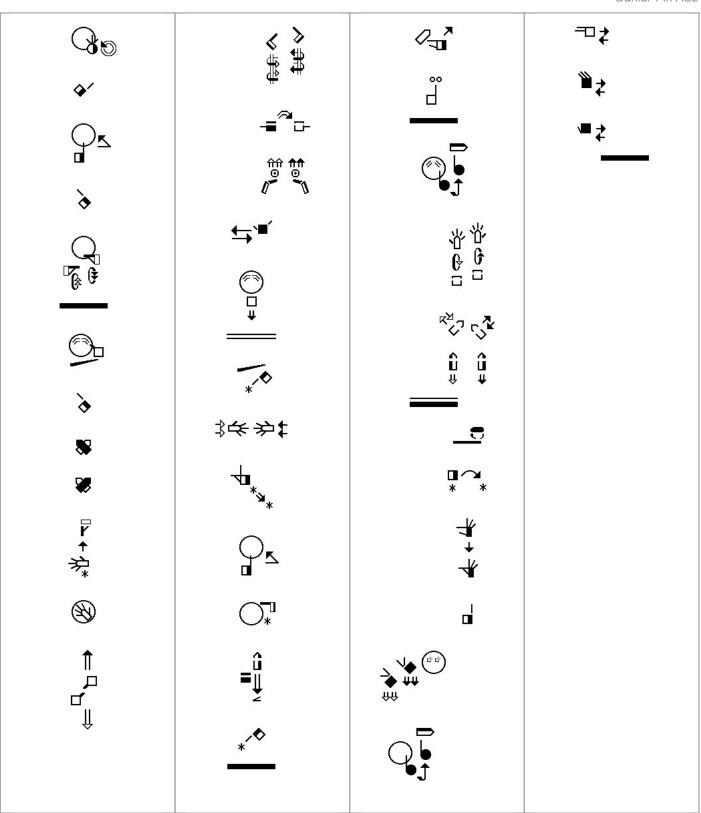
Verse 5. The king assigned them a daily ration of food and wine from his own kitchens. They were to be trained for three years, and then they would enter the royal service. Verse 6. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were four of the young men chosen, all from the tribe of Judah.



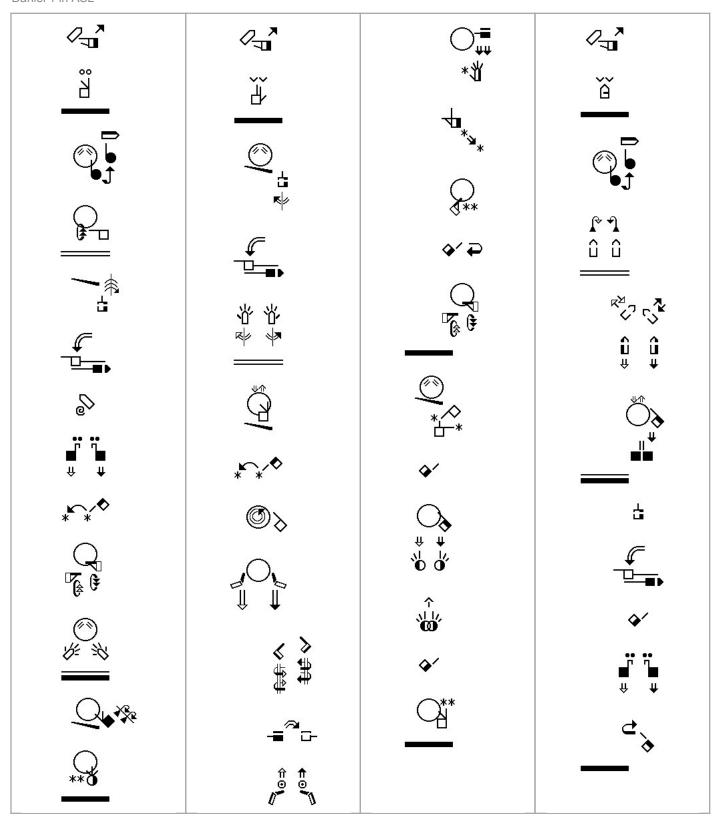
Verse 7. The chief of staff renamed them with these Babylonian names: Daniel was called Belteshazzar. Hananiah was called Shadrach. Mishael was called Meshach. Azariah was called Abednego. Verse 8. But Daniel was determined not to defile himself NLT



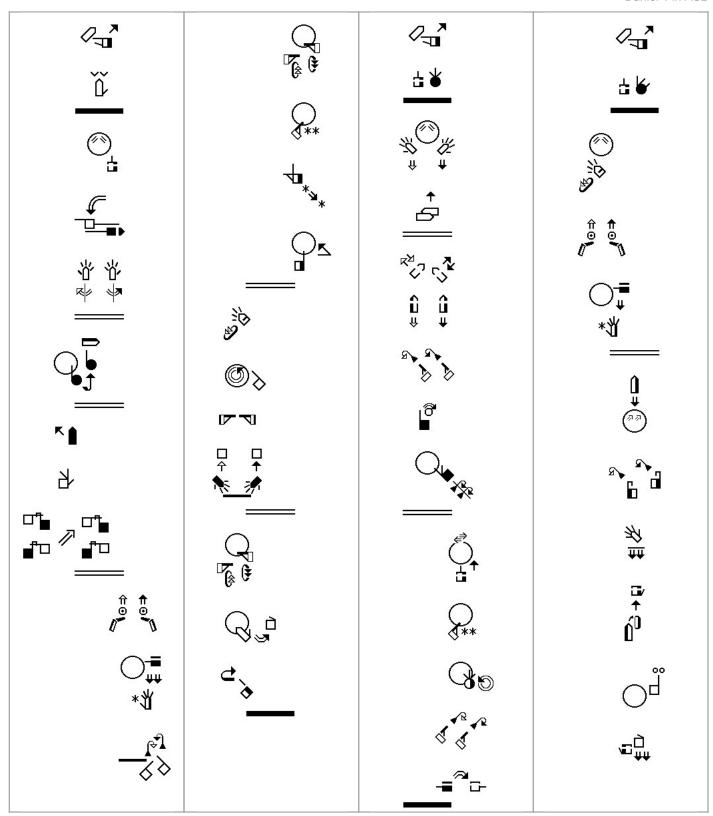
by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods. Verse 9. Now God had given the chief of staff both respect and affection for Daniel. Verse 10. But he responded, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has ordered that you eat this food NLT



and wine. If you become pale and thin compared to the other youths your age, I am afraid the king will have me beheaded." Verse 11. Daniel spoke with the attendant who had been appointed by the chief of staff to look after Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

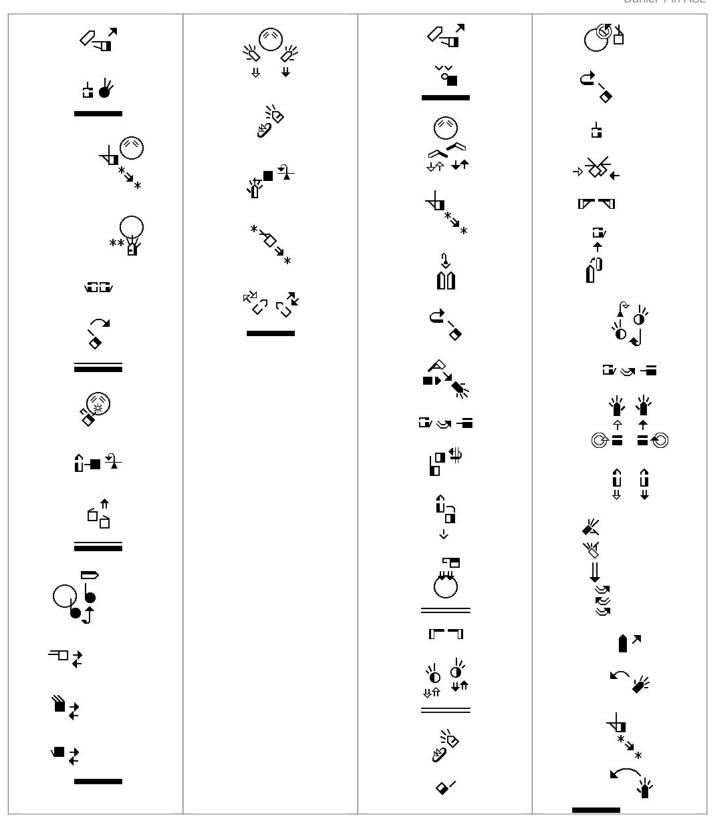


Verse 12. "Please test us for ten days on a diet of vegetables and water," Daniel said. Verse 13. "At the end of the ten days, see how we look compared to the other young men who are eating the king's food. Then make your decision in light of what you see." Verse 14. The attendant agreed to Daniel's suggestion and tested them for ten days.

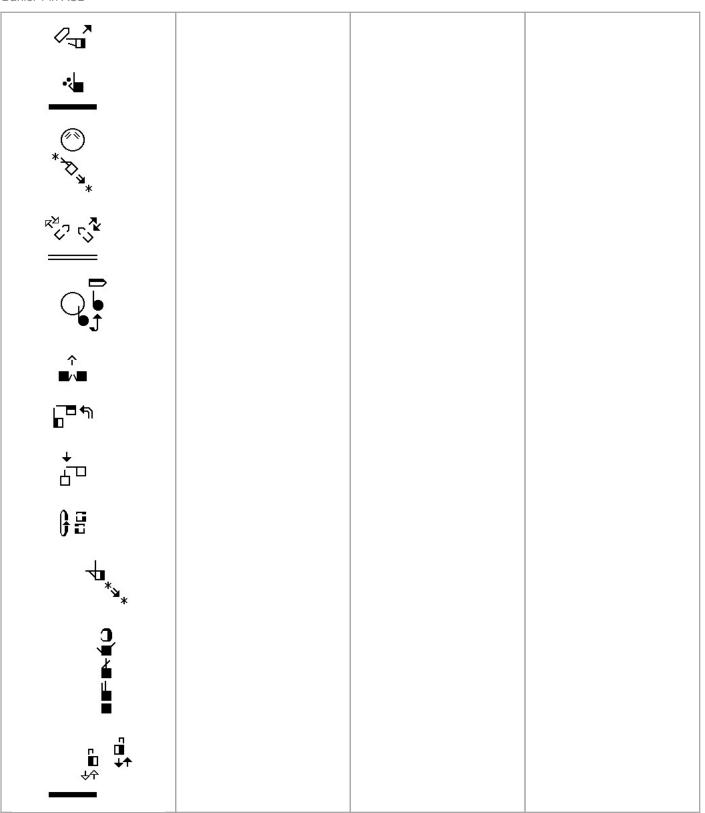


Verse 15. At the end of the ten days, Daniel and his three friends looked healthier and better nourished than the young men who had been eating the food assigned by the king. Verse 16. So after that, the attendant fed them only vegetables instead of the food and wine provided for the others. Verse 17. God gave these four young men an unusual aptitude for understanding every NLT

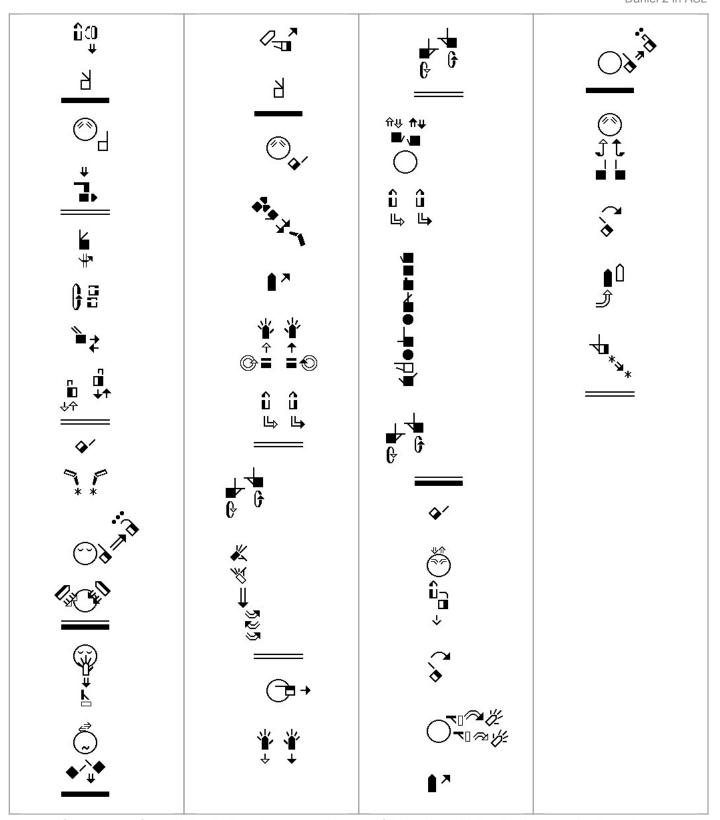
aspect of literature and wisdom. And God gave Daniel the special ability to interpret the meanings of visions and dreams. Verse 18. When the training period ordered by the king was completed, the chief of staff brought all the young men to King Nebuchadnezzar. NLT



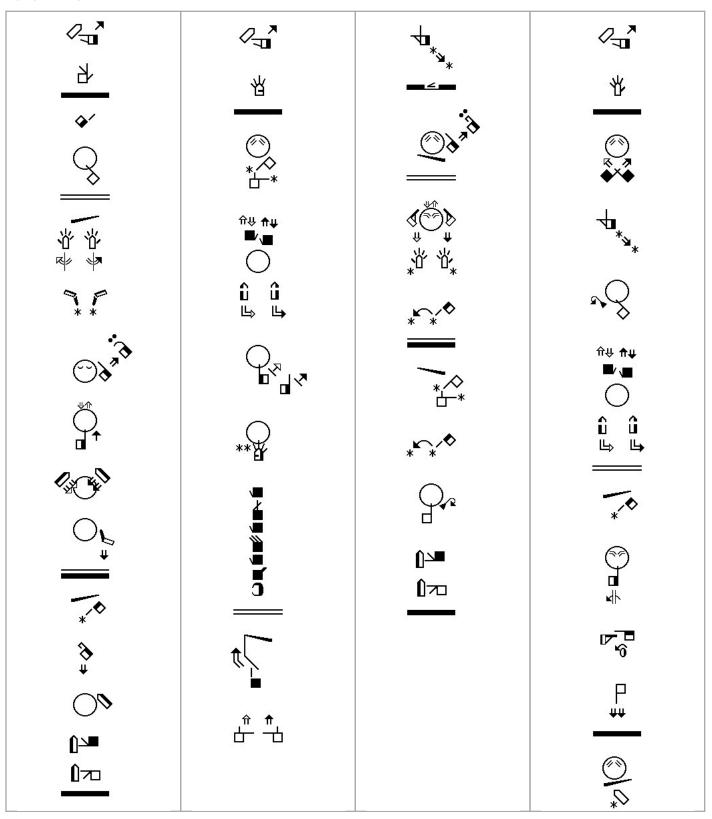
Verse 19. The king talked with them, and no one impressed him as much as Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. So they entered the royal service. Verse 20. Whenever the king consulted them in any matter requiring wisdom and balanced judgment, he found them ten times more capable than any of the magicians and enchanters in his entire kingdom.



Verse 21. Daniel remained in the royal service until the first year of the reign of King Cyrus.



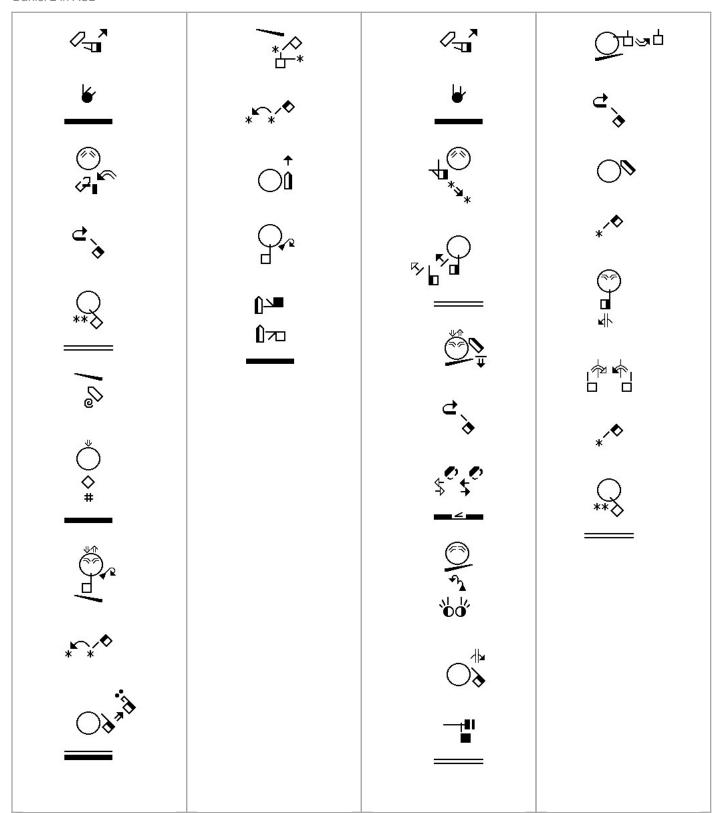
Chapter 2. One night during the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had such disturbing dreams that he couldn't sleep. Verse 2. He called in his magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and astrologers, and he demanded that they tell him what he had dreamed. As they stood before the king,



Verse 3. he said, "I have had a dream that deeply troubles me, and I must know what it means." Verse 4. Then the astrologers answered the king in Aramaic, "Long live the king! Tell us the dream, and we will tell you what it means." Verse 5. But the king said to the astrologers, "I am serious about this.

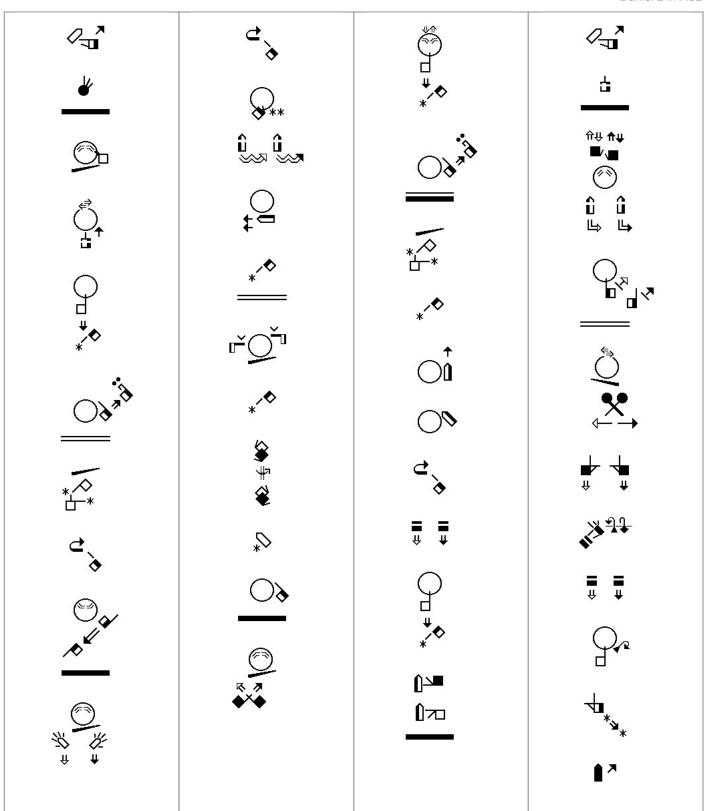
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If you don't tell me what my dream was and what it means, you will be torn limb from limb, and your houses will be turned into heaps of rubble! Verse 6. But if you tell me what I dreamed and what the dream means, I will give you many wonderful gifts and honors. Just tell me the dream and what it means!"

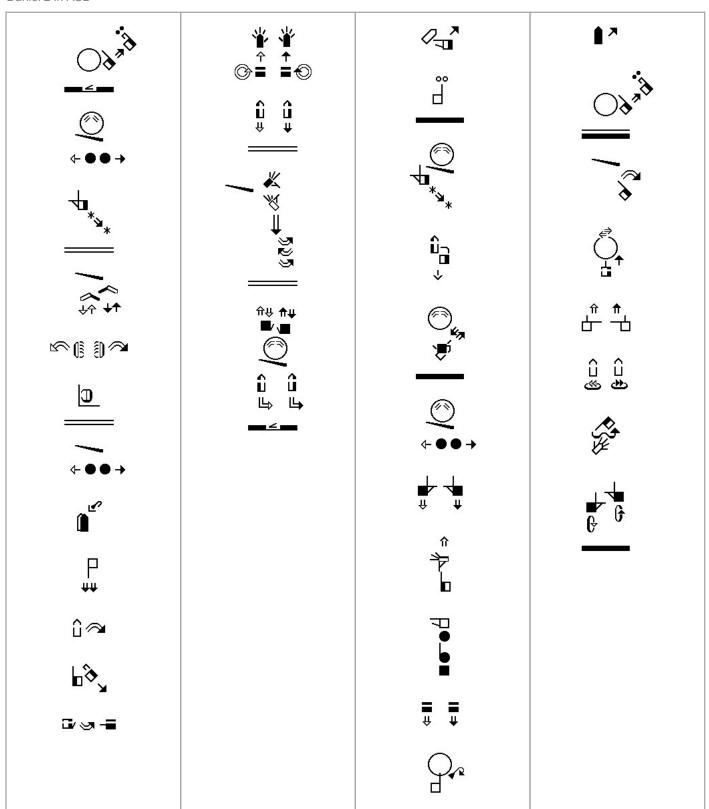


Verse 7. They said again, "Please, Your Majesty. Tell us the dream, and we will tell you what it means." Verse 8. The king replied, "I know what you are doing! You're stalling for time because you know I am serious when I say,

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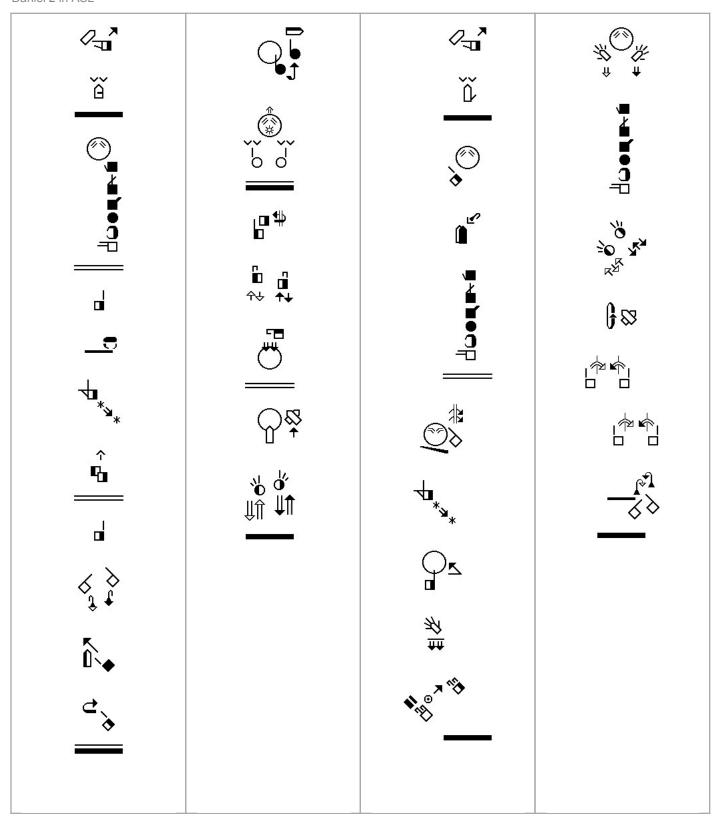


Verse 9. 'If you don't tell me the dream, you are doomed.' So you have conspired to tell me lies, hoping I will change my mind. But tell me the dream, and then I'll know that you can tell me what it means." Verse 10. The astrologers replied to the king, "No one on earth can tell the king his

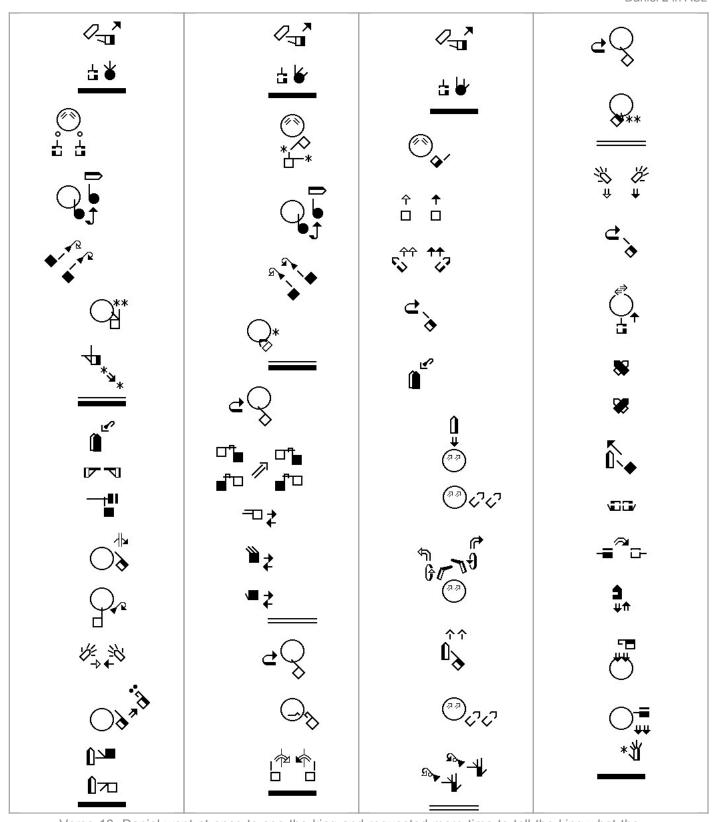


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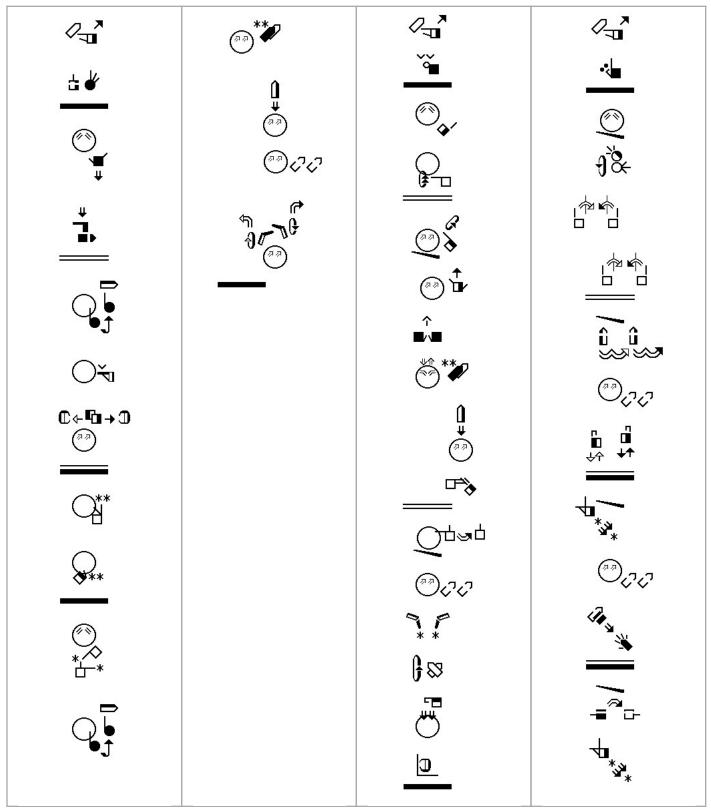
Verse 12. The king was furious when he heard this, and he ordered that all the wise men of Babylon be executed. Verse 13. And because of the king's decree, men were sent to find and kill Daniel and his friends.



Verse 14. When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, came to kill them, Daniel handled the situation with wisdom and discretion. Verse 15. He asked Arioch, "Why has the king issued such a harsh decree?" So Arioch told him all that had happened.

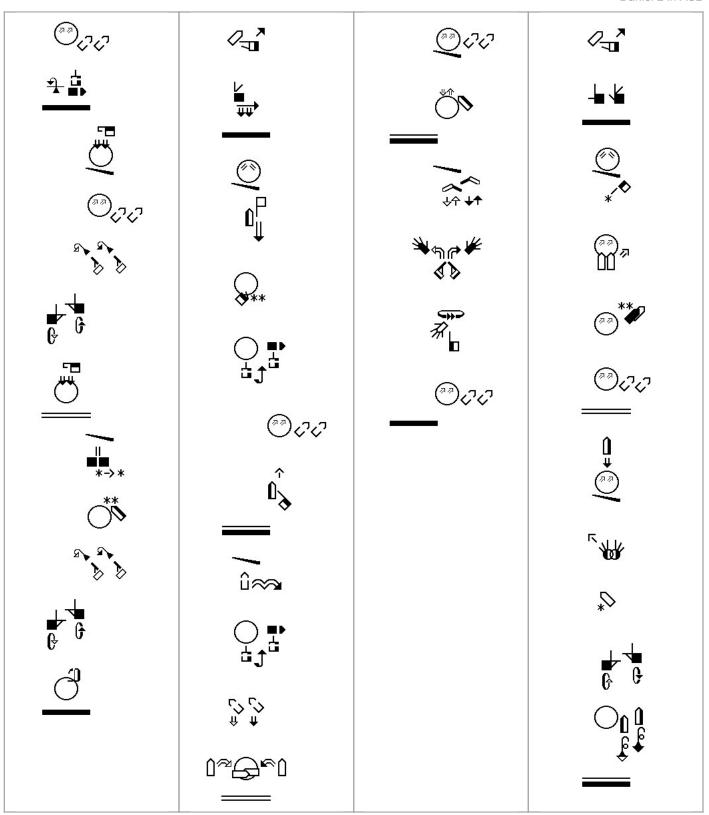


Verse 16. Daniel went at once to see the king and requested more time to tell the king what the dream meant. Verse 17. Then Daniel went home and told his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. Verse 18. He urged them to ask the God of heaven to show them his mercy by telling them the secret, so they would not be executed along with the other wise men of Babylon.

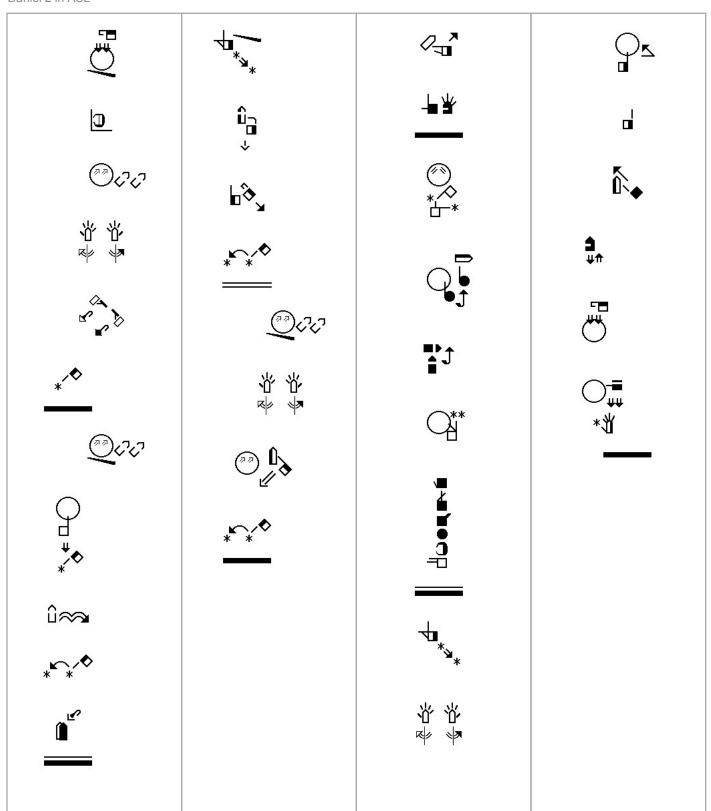


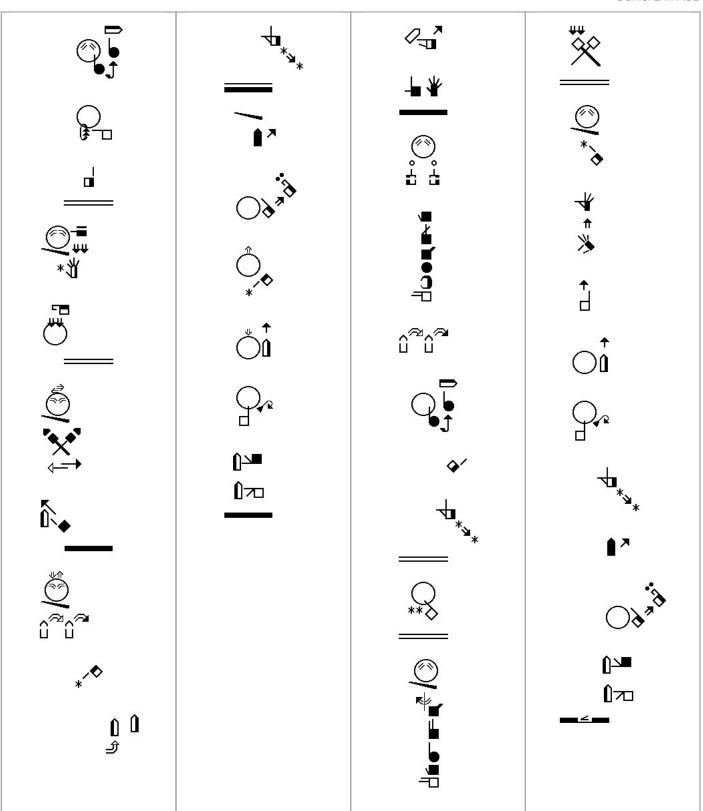
Verse 19. That night the secret was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven. Verse 20. He said, "Praise the name of God forever and ever, for he has all wisdom and power. Verse 21. He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings.

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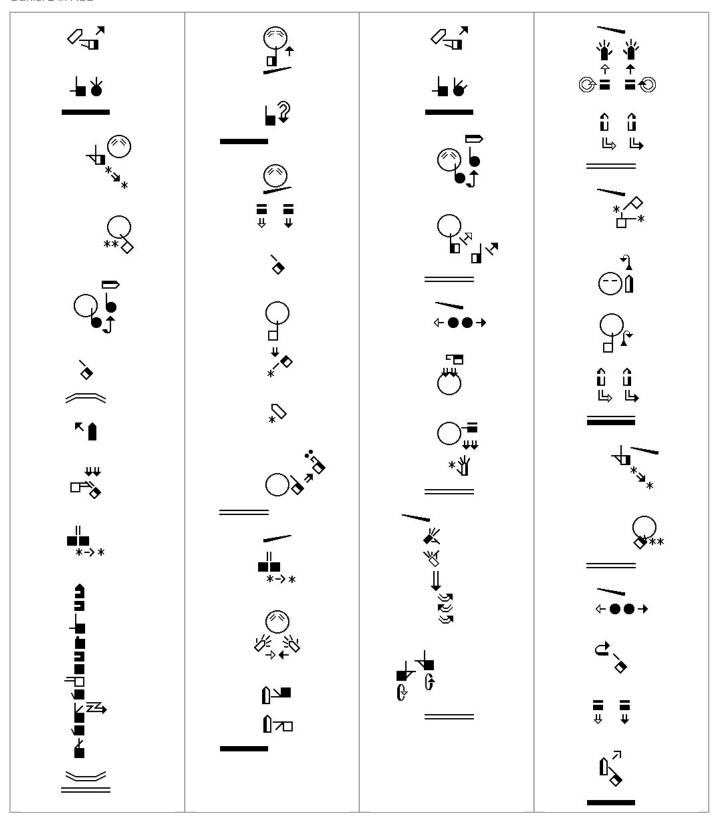


He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars. Verse 22. He reveals deep and mysterious things and knows what lies hidden in darkness, though he is surrounded by light. Verse 23. I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors, NLT

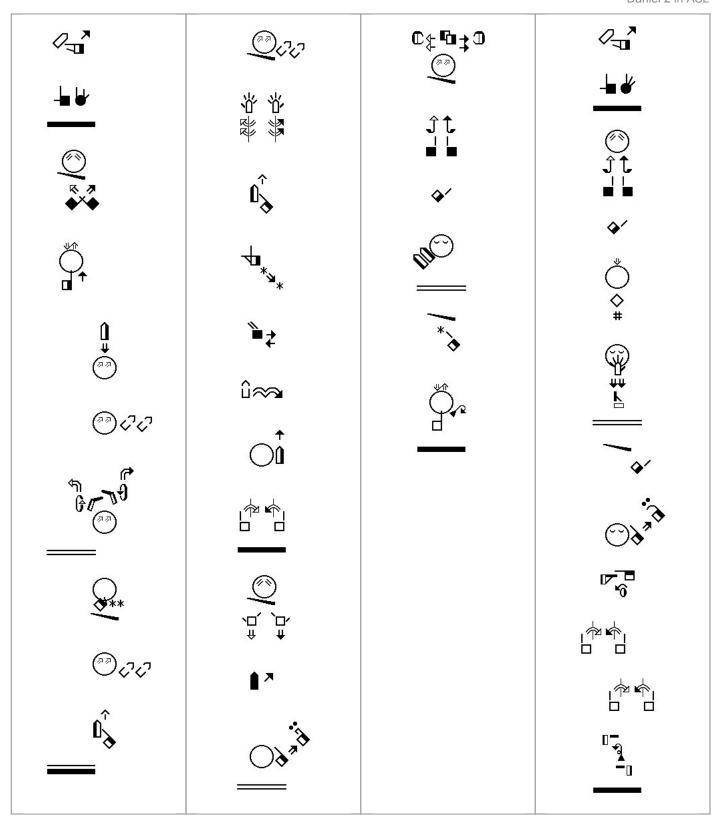




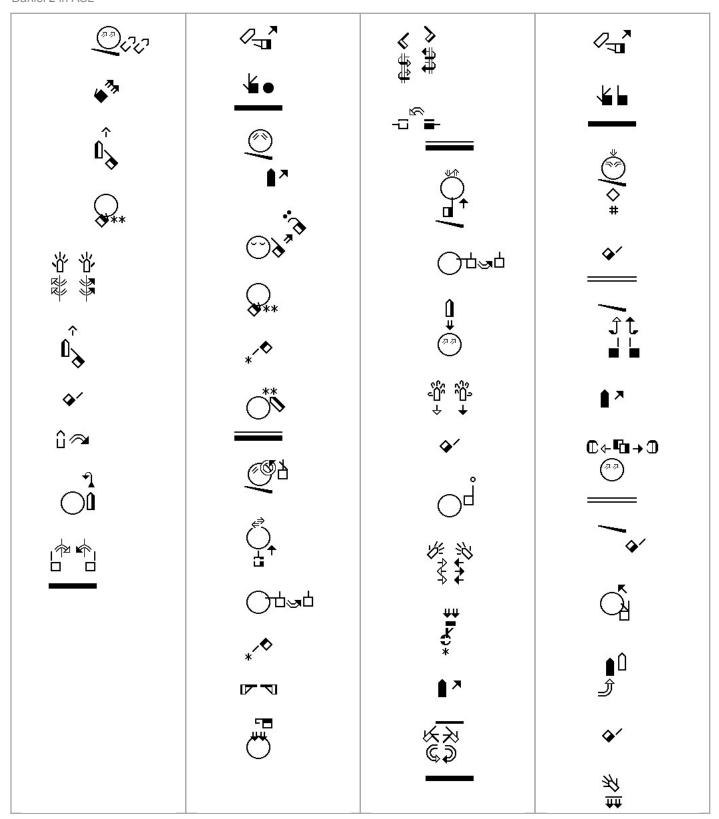
Daniel said to him, "Don't kill the wise men. Take me to the king, and I will tell him the meaning of his dream." Verse 25. Arioch quickly took Daniel to the king and said, "I have found one of the captives from Judah who will tell the king the meaning of his dream!" NLT



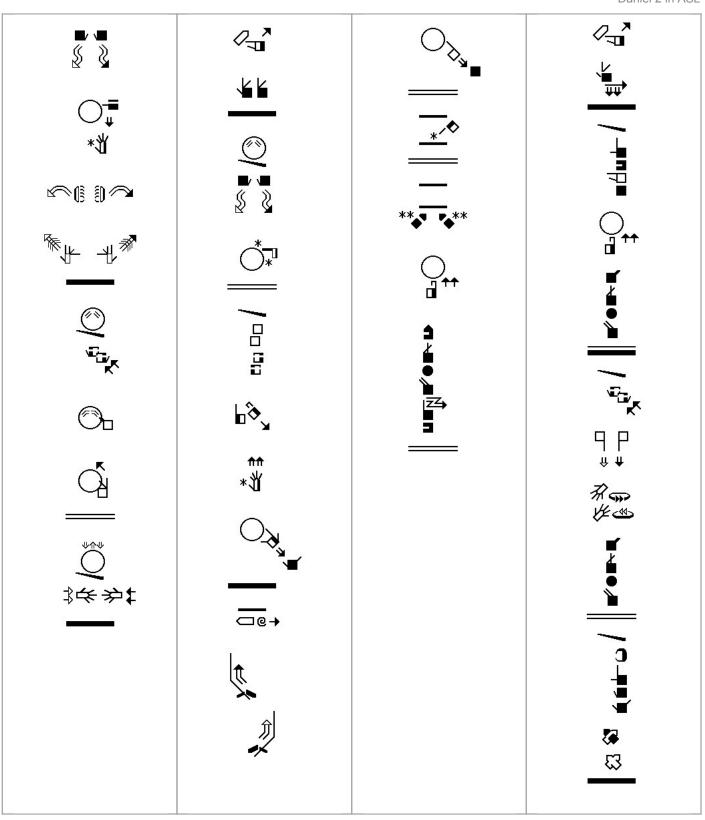
Verse 26. The king said to Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar), "Is this true? Can you tell me what my dream was and what it means?" Verse 27. Daniel replied, "There are no wise men, enchanters, magicians, or fortune-tellers who can reveal the king's secret. NLT



Verse 28. But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and he has shown King Nebuchadnzzar what will happen in the future. Now I will tell you your dream and the visions you saw as you lay on your bed. Verse 29. "While Your Majesty was sleeping, you dreamed about coming events.

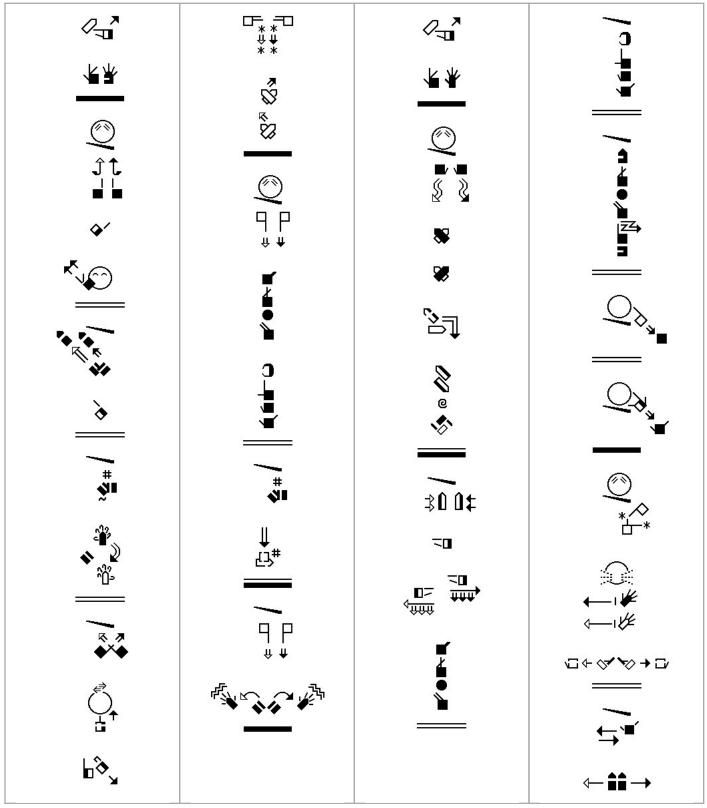


He who reveals secrets has shown you what is going to happen. Verse 30. And it is not because I am wiser than anyone else that I know the secret of your dream, but because God wants you to understand what was in your heart. Verse 31. "In your vision, Your Majesty, you saw standing before you a NLT



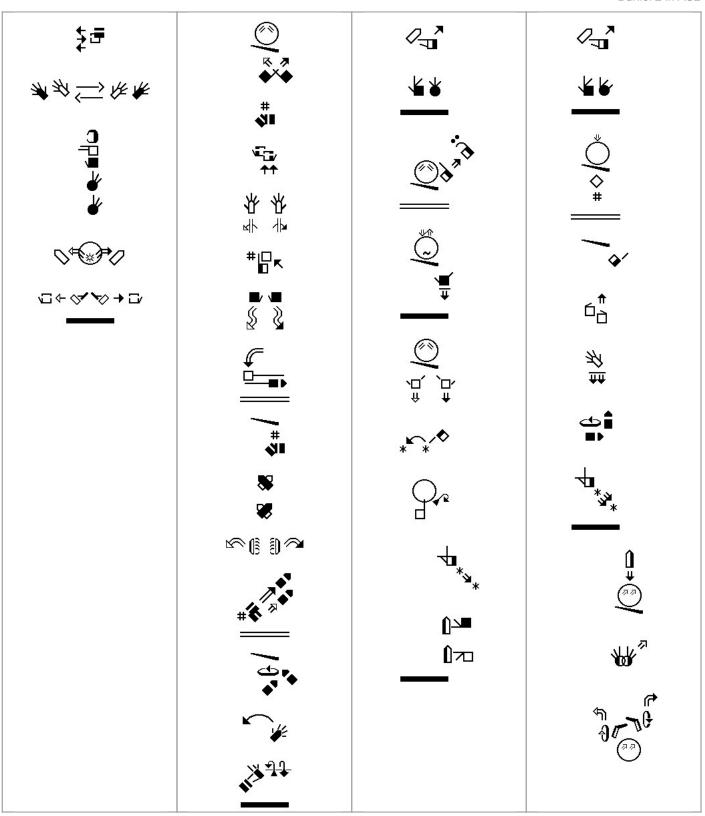
huge, shining statue of a man. It was a frightening sight. Verse 32. The head of the statue was made of fine gold. Its chest and arms were silver, its belly and thighs were bronze, Verse 33. its legs were iron, and its feet were a combination of iron and baked clay.

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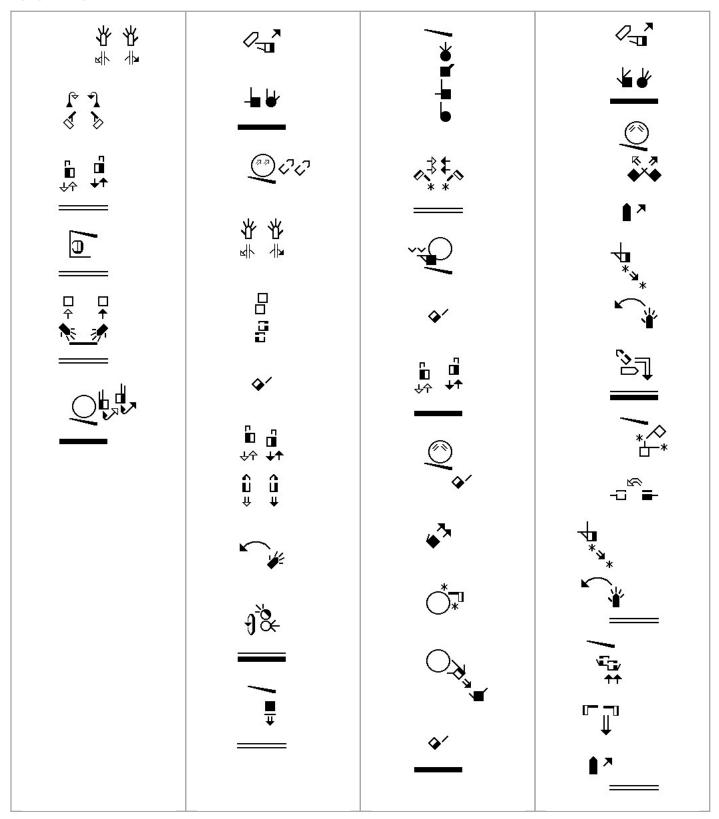


Verse 34. As you watched, a rock was cut from a mountain, but not by human hands. It struck the feet of iron and clay, smashing them to bits. Verse 35. The whole statue was crushed into small pieces of iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold. Then the wind blew them away without a trace, like

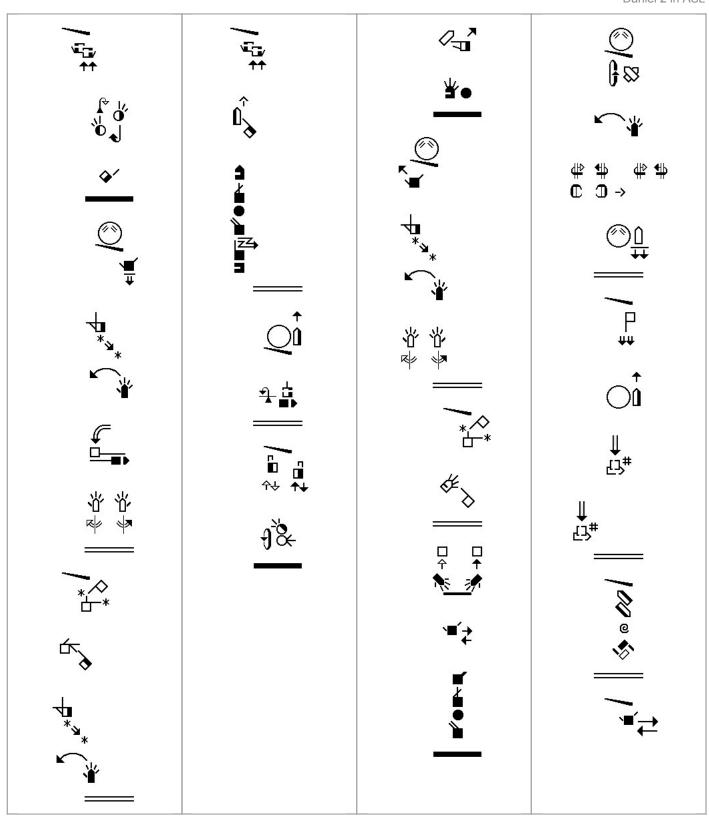
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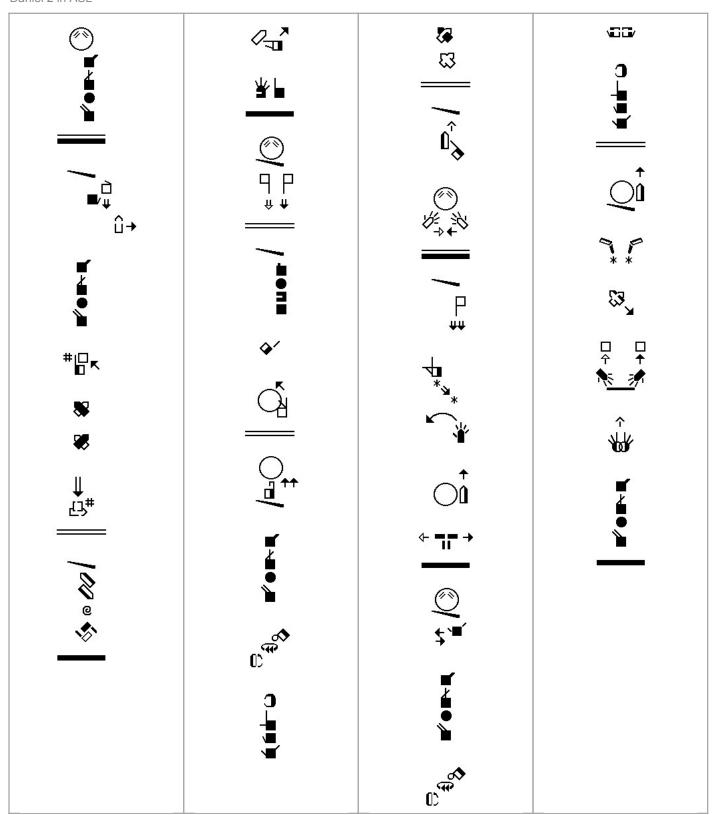
chaff on a threshing floor. But the rock that knocked the statue down became a great mountain that covered the whole earth. Verse 36. "That was the dream. Now we will tell the king what it means. Verse 37. Your Majesty, you are the greatest of kings. The God of heaven NLT



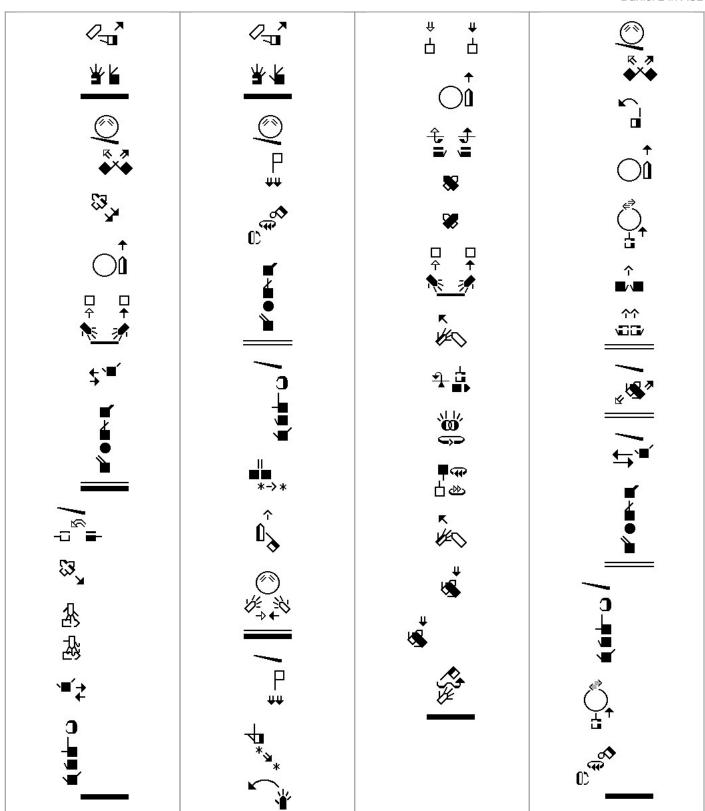
has given you sovereignty, power, strength, and honor. Verse 38. He has made you the ruler over all the inhabited world and has put even the wild animals and birds under your control. You are the head of gold. Verse 39. "But after your kingdom comes to an end, another kingdom, inferior to yours,



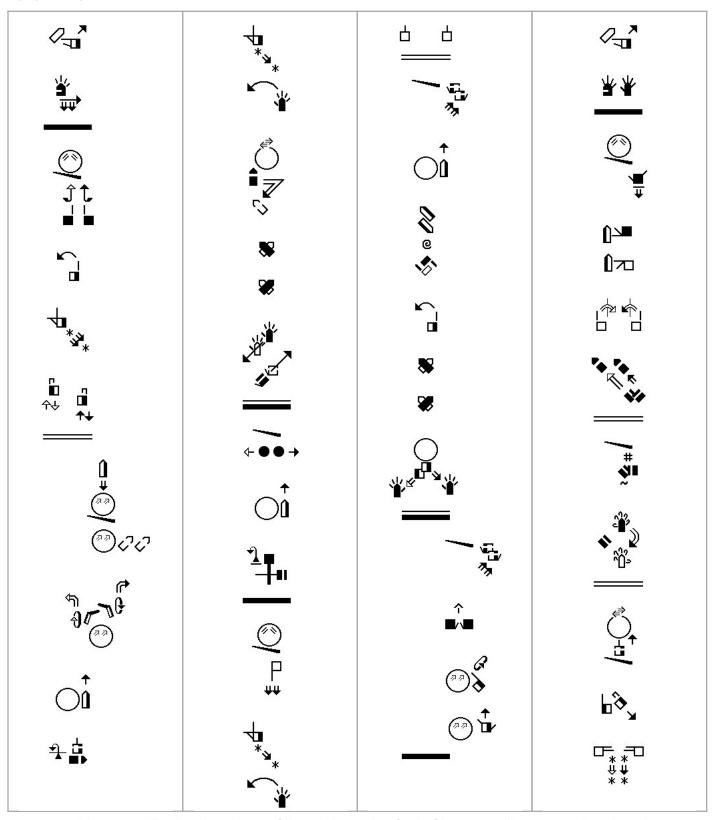
will rise to take your place. After that kingdom has fallen, yet a third kingdom, represented by bronze, will rise to rule the world. Verse 40. Following that kingdom there will be a fourth one, as strong as iron. That kingdom will smash and crush all previous empires, just as



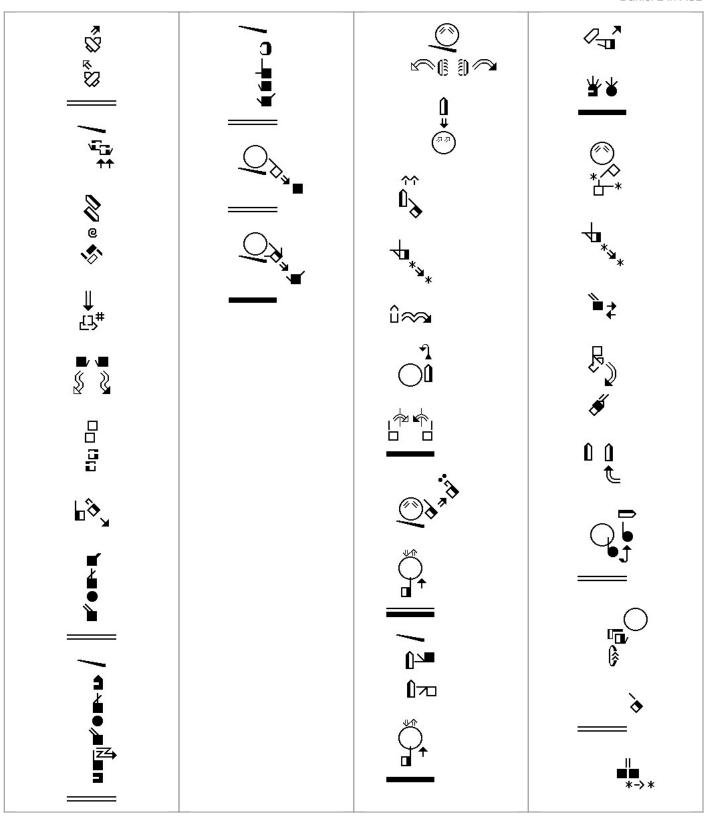
iron smashes and crushes everything it strikes. Verse 41. The feet and toes you saw were a combination of iron and baked clay, showing that this kingdom will be divided. Like iron mixed with clay, it will have some of the strength of iron.



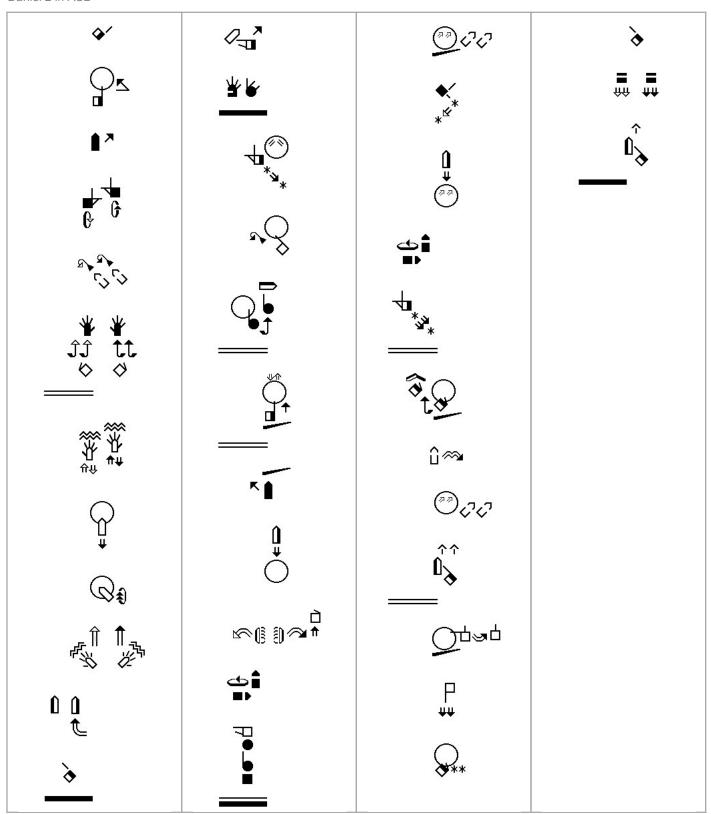
Verse 42. But while some parts of it will be as strong as iron, other parts will be as weak as clay. Verse 43. This mixture of iron and clay also shows that these kingdoms will try to strengthen themselves by forming alliances with each other through intermarriage. But they will not hold together, just as iron and clay do not mix.



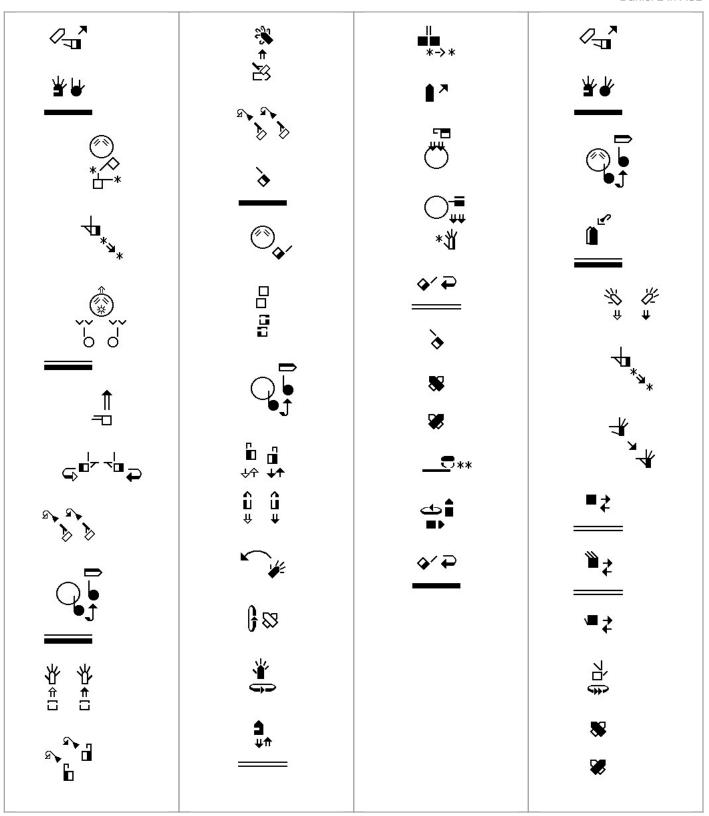
Verse 44. "During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever. Verse 45. That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain, though not by human NLT



hands, that crushed to pieces the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain." Verse 46. Then King Nebuchadnezzar threw himself down before Daniel and worshiped him, and



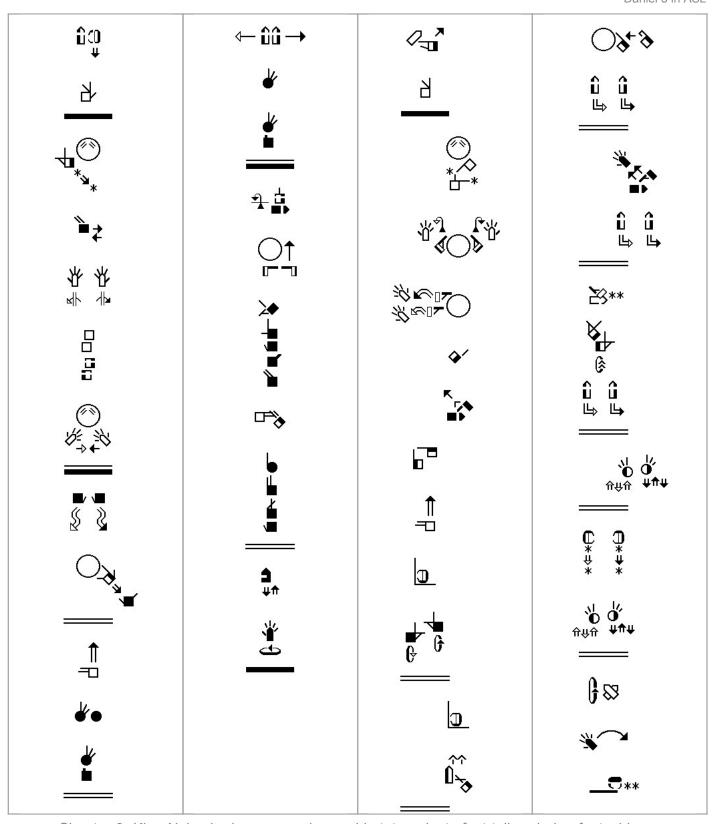
he commanded his people to offer sacrifices and burn sweet incense before him. Verse 47. The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the LORD over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret."



Verse 48. Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men. Verse 49. At Daniel's request, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

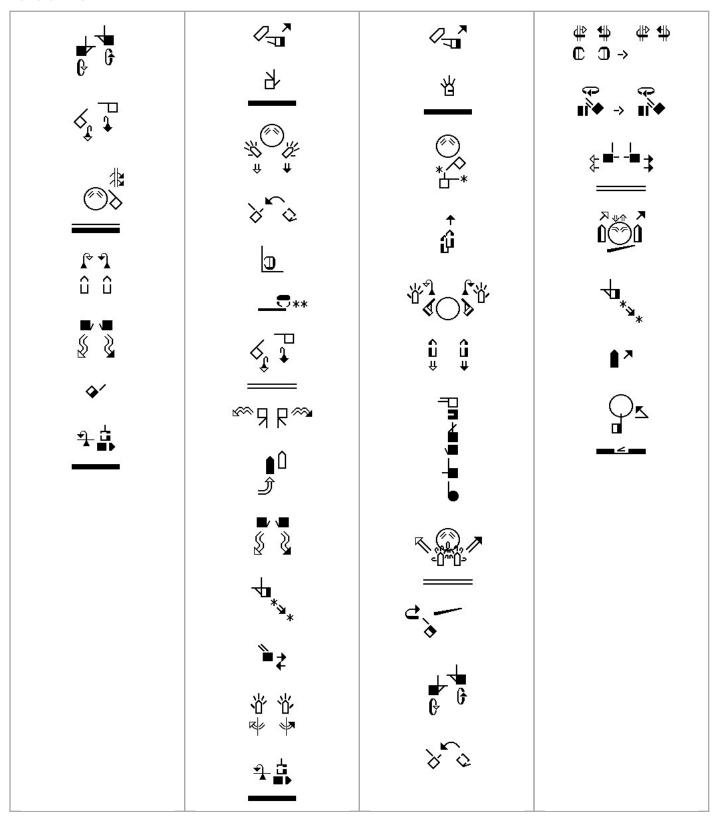
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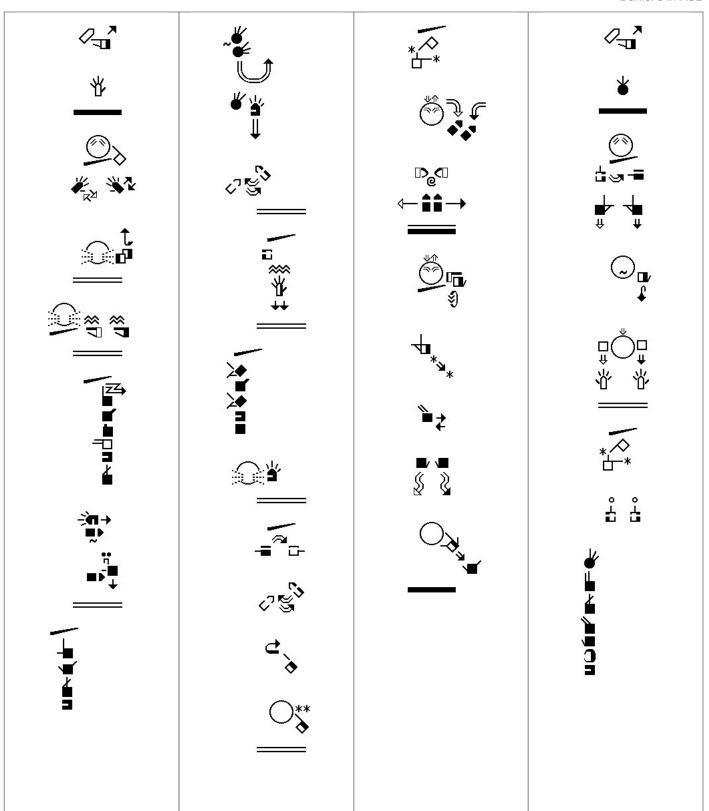


Chapter 3. King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue ninety feet tall and nine feet wide and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. Verse 2. Then he sent messages to the high officers, officials, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates, and all the provincial officials

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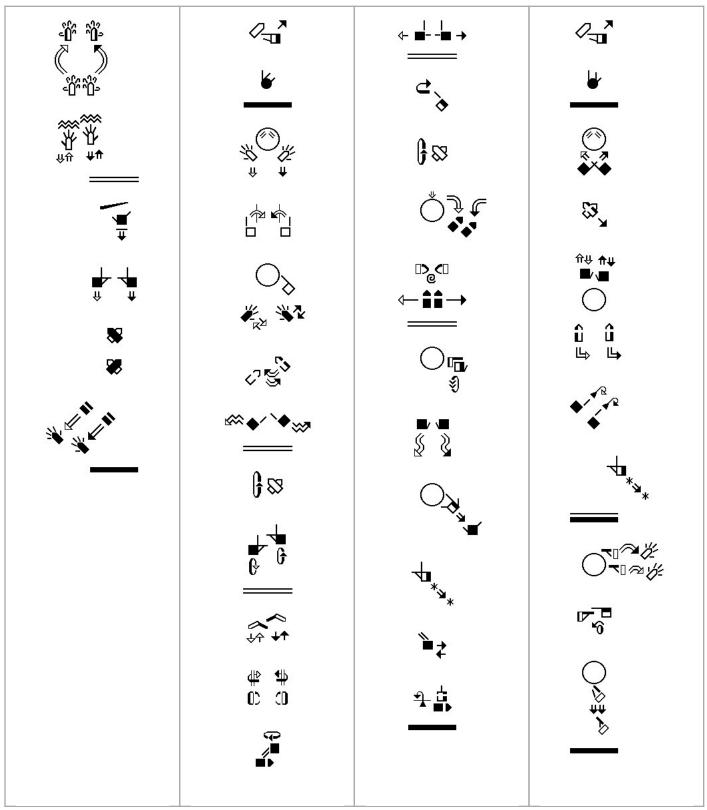


to come to the dedication of the statue he had set up. Verse 3. So all these officials came and stood before the statue King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Verse 4. Then a herald shouted out, "People of all races and nations and languages, listen to the king's command!

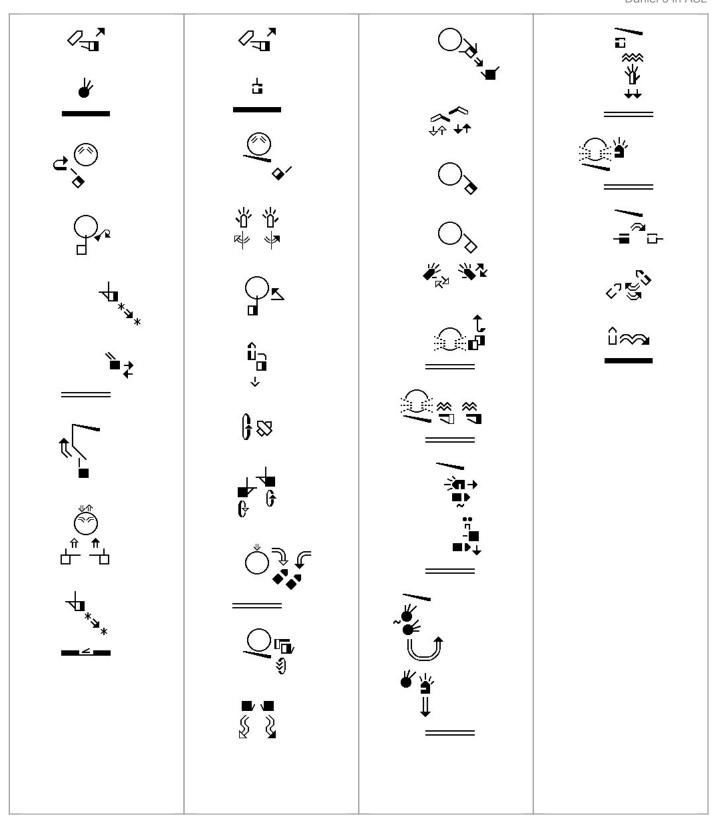


Verse 5. When you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments, bow to the ground to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's gold statue. Verse 6. Anyone who refuses to obey will immediately

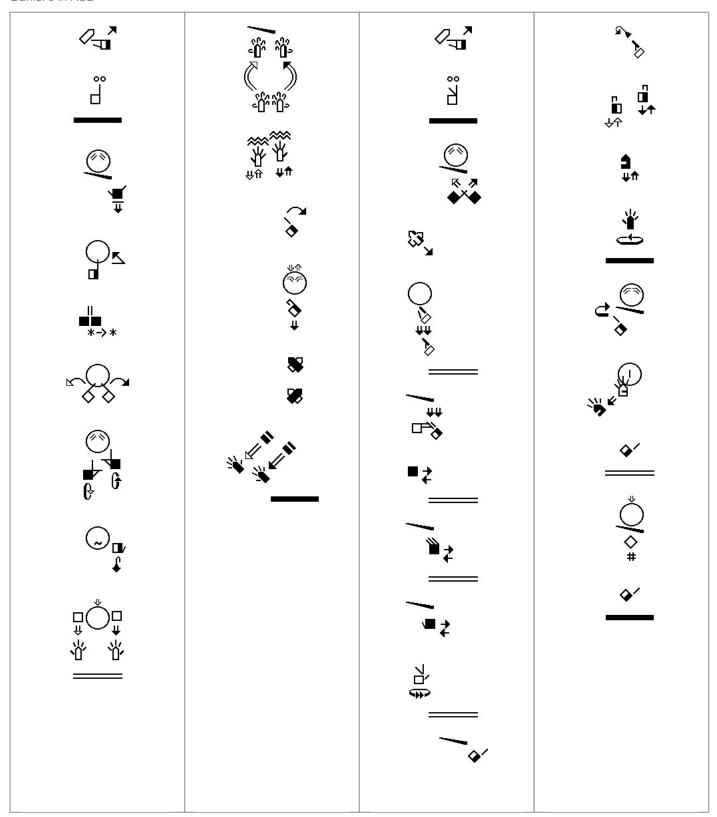
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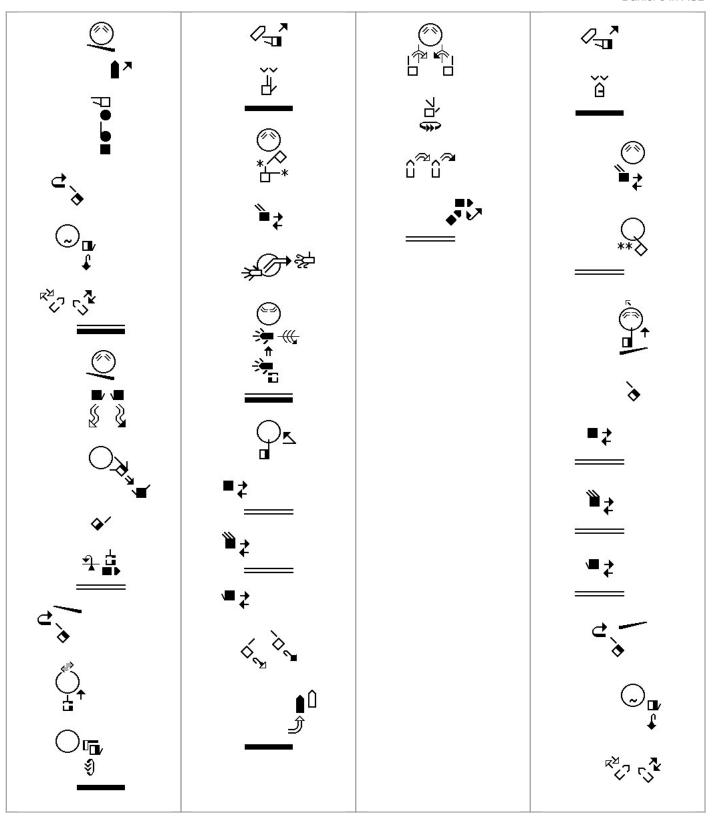
be thrown into a blazing furnace." Verse 7. So at the sound of the musical instruments, all the people, whatever their race or nation or language, bowed to the ground and worshiped the gold statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Verse 8. But some of the astrologers went to the king and informed on the Jews.



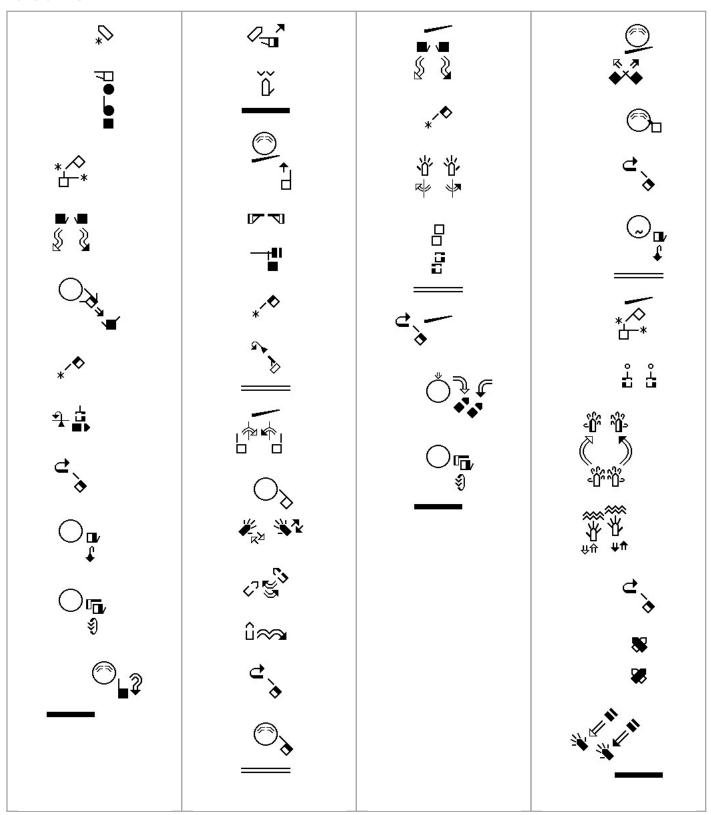
Verse 9. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "Long live the king! Verse 10. You issued a decree requiring all the people to bow down and worship the gold statue when they hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments. NLT



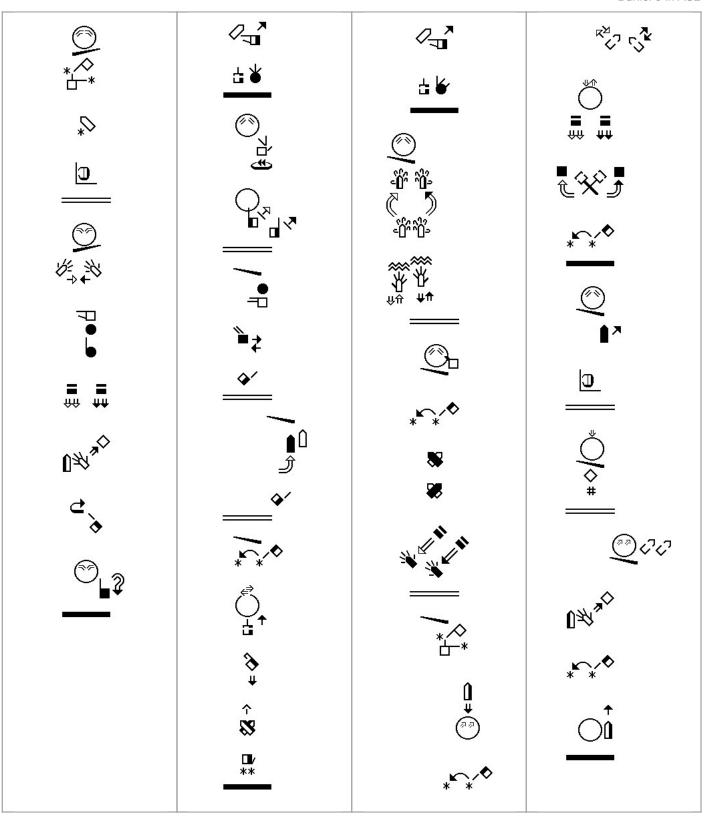
Verse 11. That decree also states that those who refuse to obey must be thrown into a blazing furnace. Verse 12. But there are some Jews -- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego -- whom you have put in charge of the province of Babylon. They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty.



They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up." Verse 13. Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him. When they were brought in, Verse 14. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve NLT

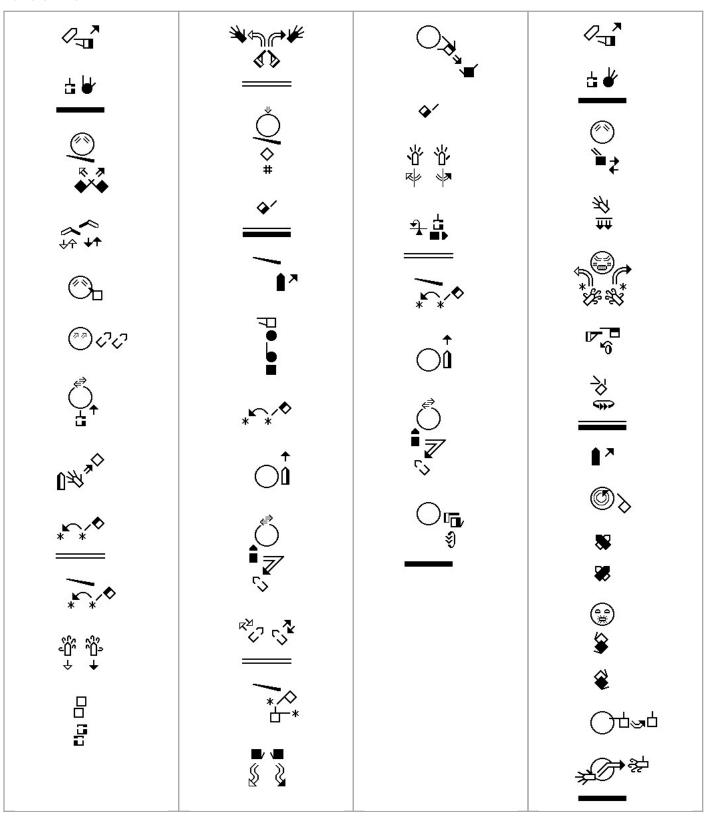


my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up? Verse 15. I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace.



And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?" Verse 16. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. Verse 17. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from you power, Your Majesty.

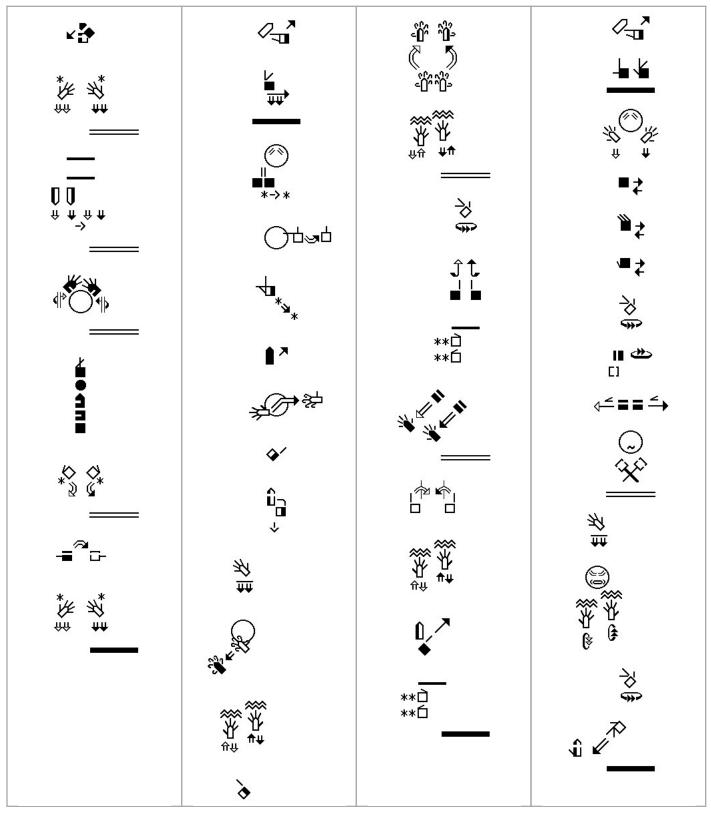
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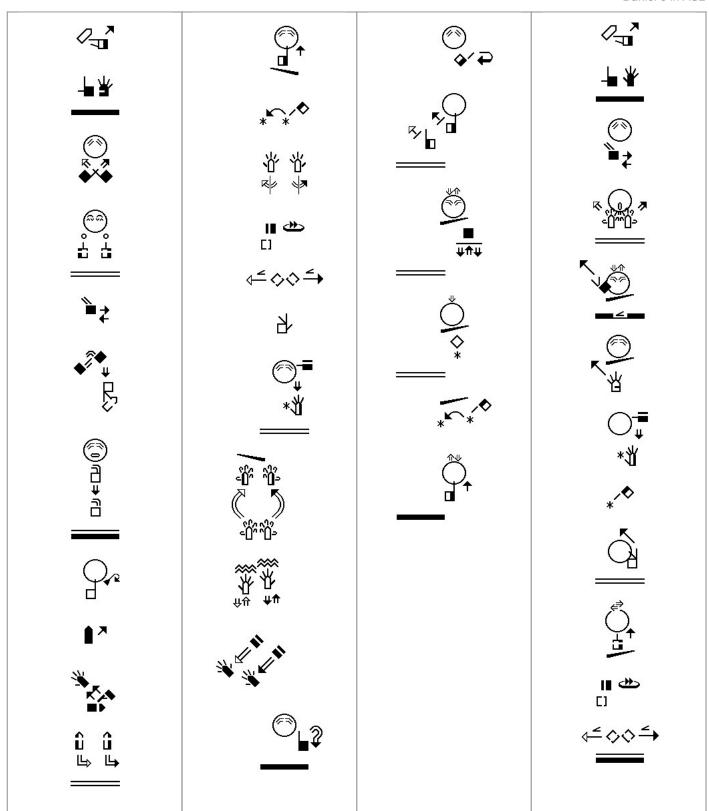
Verse 18. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." Verse 19. Nebuchadnezzar was so furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face became distorted with rage.

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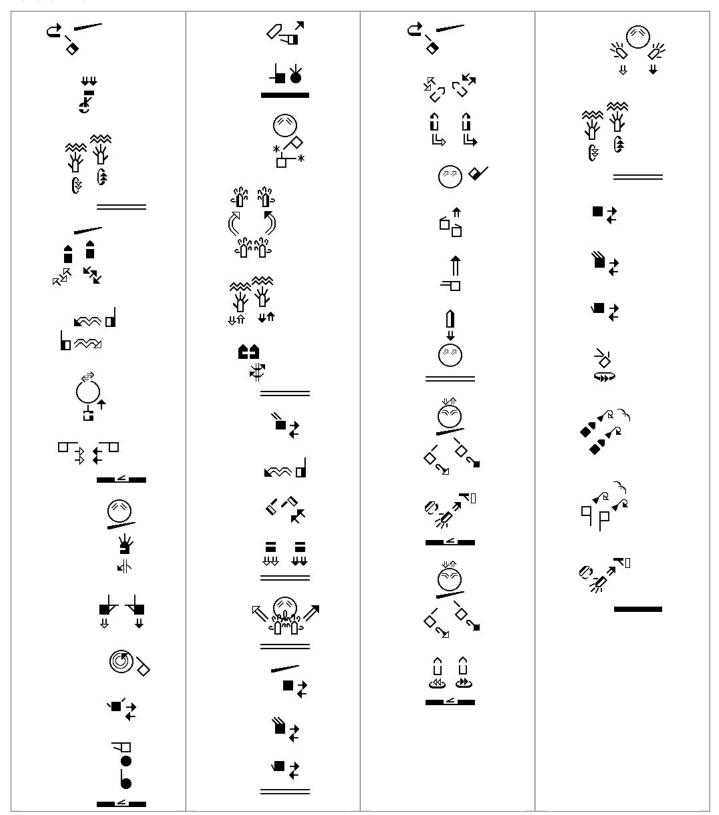
He commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than usual. Verse 20. Then he ordered some of the strongest men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. Verse 21. So they tied them up and threw them into the furnace,



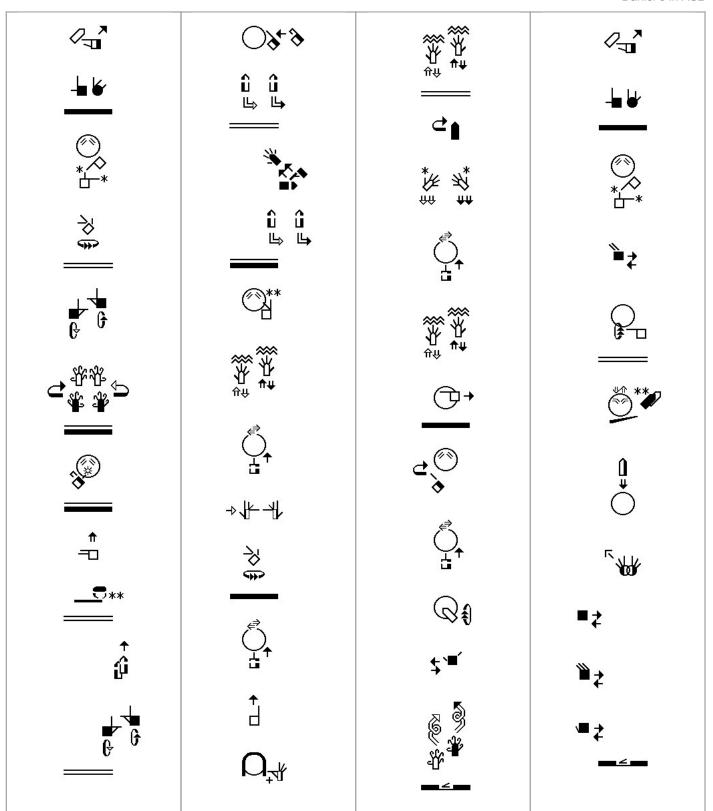
fully dressed in their pants, turbans, robes, and other garments. Verse 22. And because the king, in his anger, had demanded such a hot fire in the furnace, the flames killed the soldiers as they threw the three men in. Verse 23. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames.



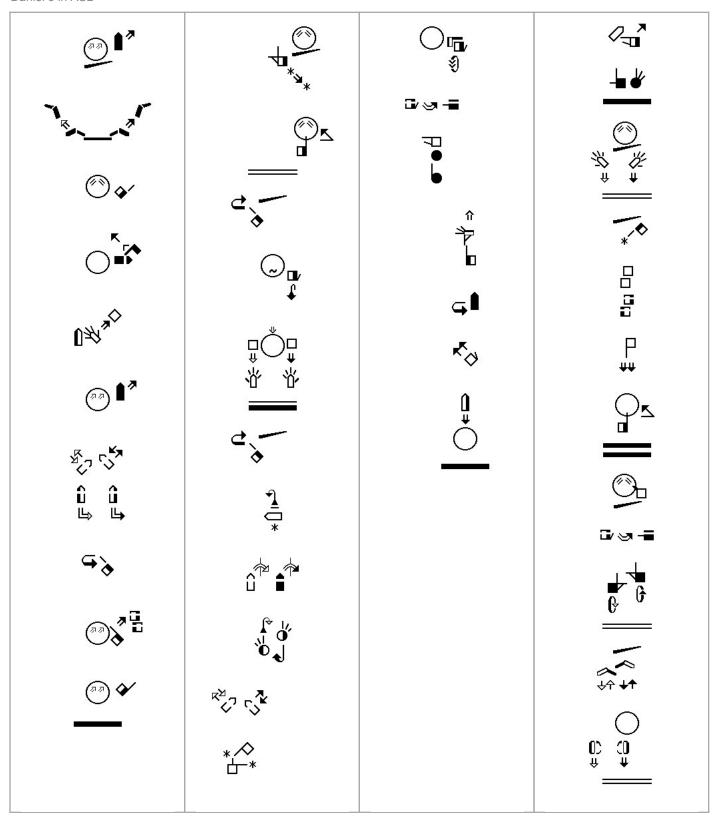
Verse 24. But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?" "Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did," they replied. Verse 25. "Look!" Nebuchadnezzar shouted. "I see four men, unbound,



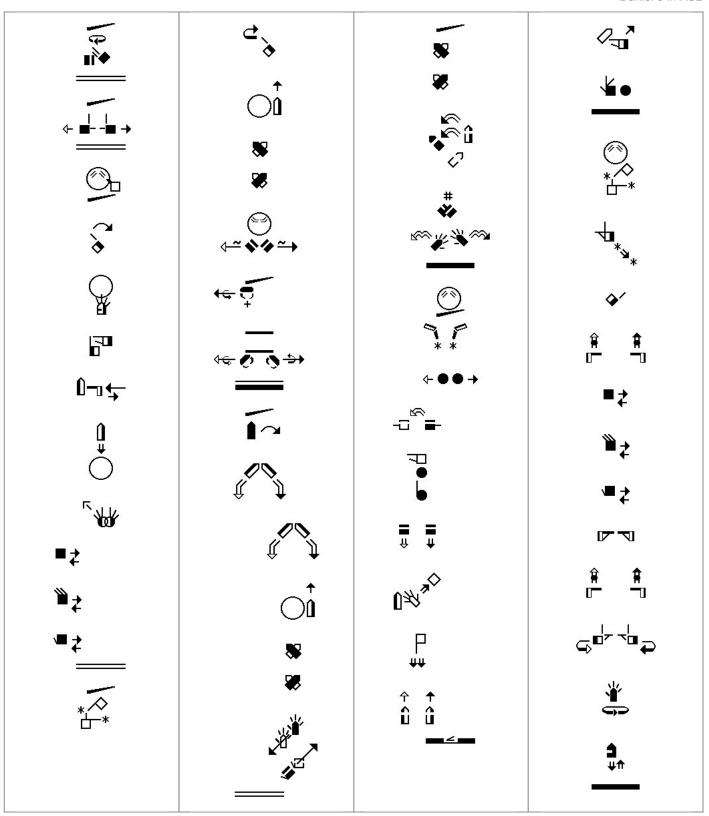
walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!" Verse 26. Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire.



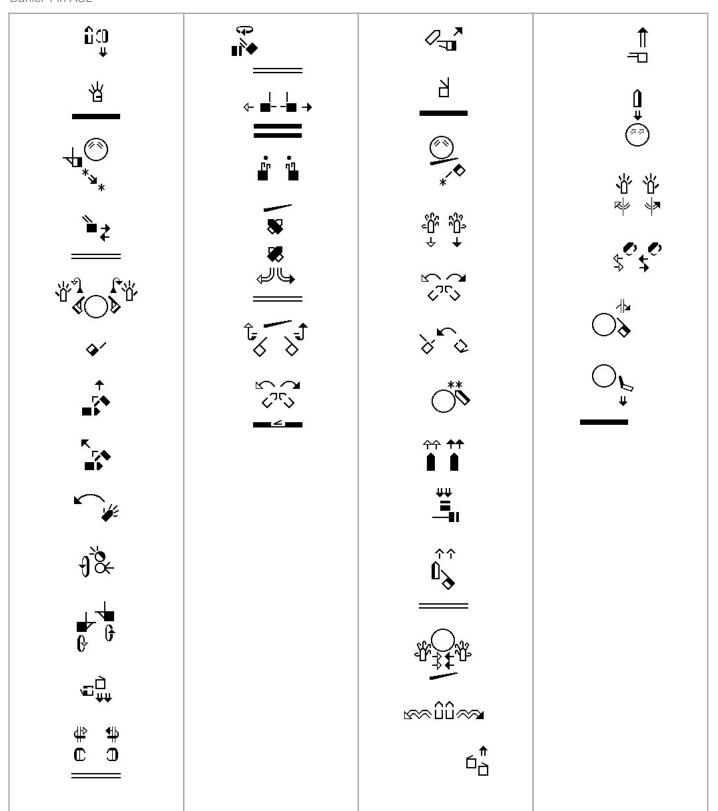
Verse 27. Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke! Verse 28. Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! NLT



He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king's command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Verse 29. Therefore, I make this decree: If any people, whatever their race NLT

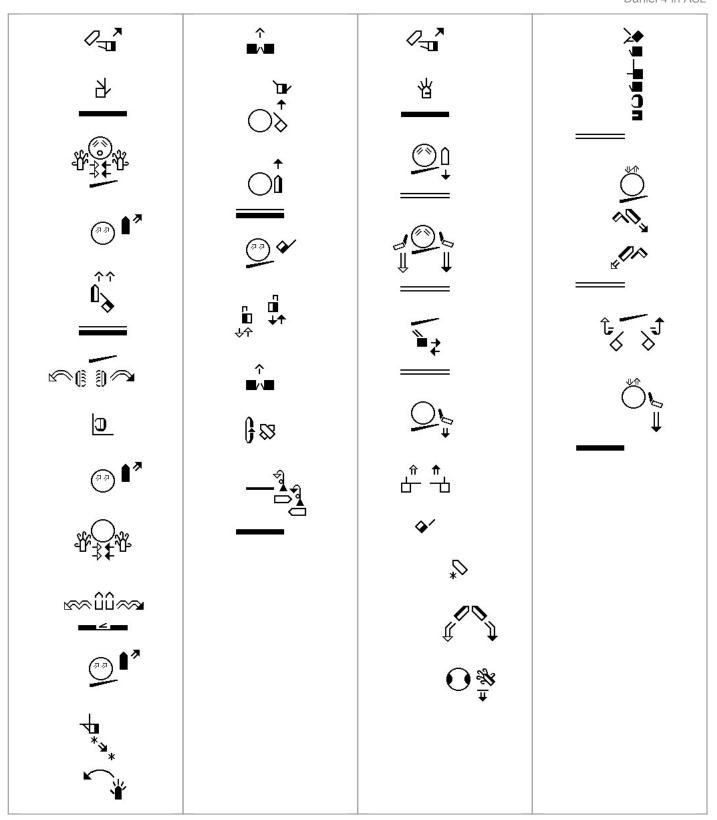


or nation or language, speak a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be torn limb from limb, and their houses will be turned into heaps of rubble. There is no other god who can rescue like this!" Verse 30. Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to even higher positions in the province of Babylon.



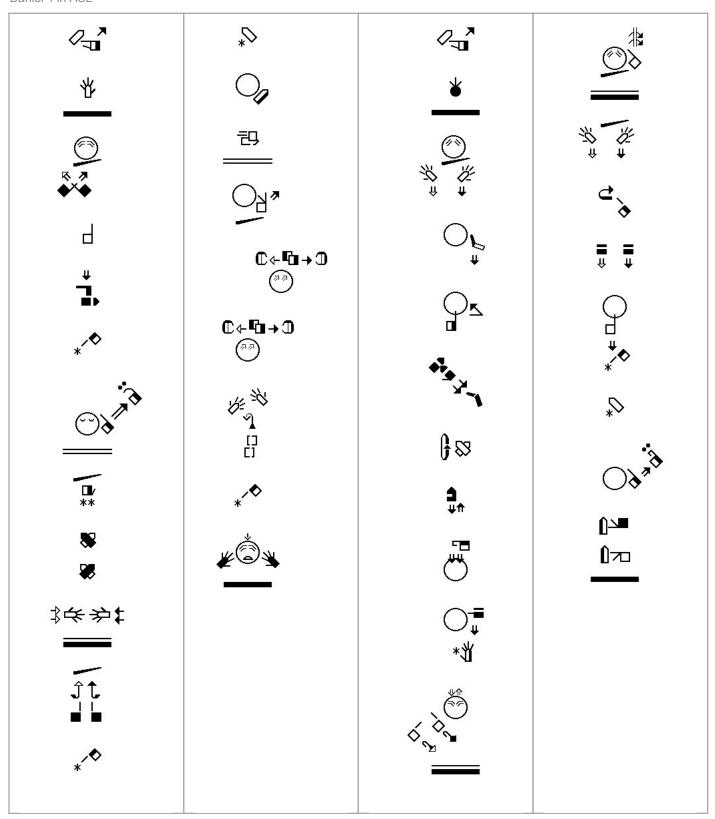
Chapter 4. King Nebuchadnezzar sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world: "Peace and prosperity to you! Verse 2. "I want you all to know about the miraculous signs and wonders the Most High God has performed for me.

NLT

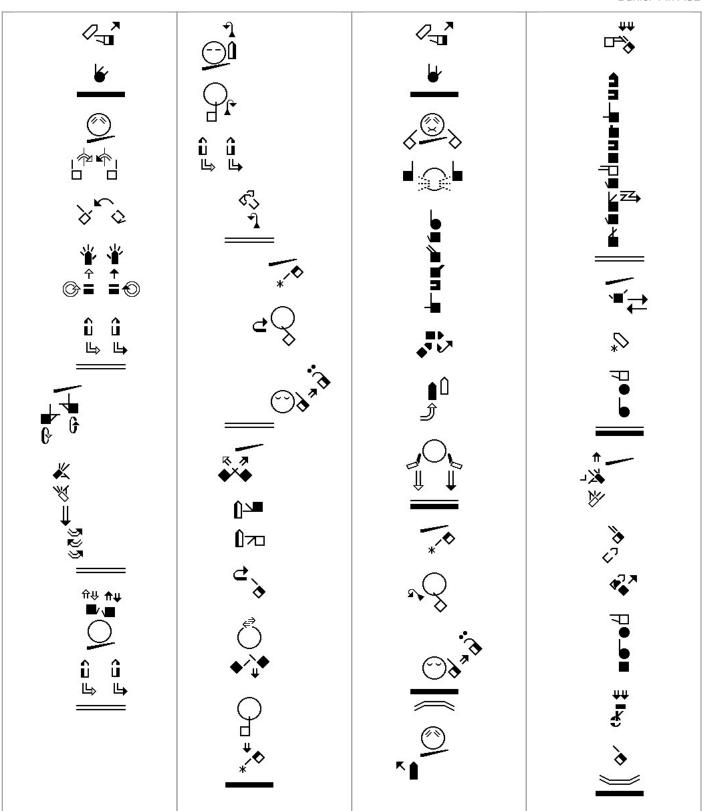


Verse 3. How great are his signs, how powerful his wonders! His kingdom will last forever, his rule through all generation. Verse 4. "I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living in my palace in comfort and prosperity.

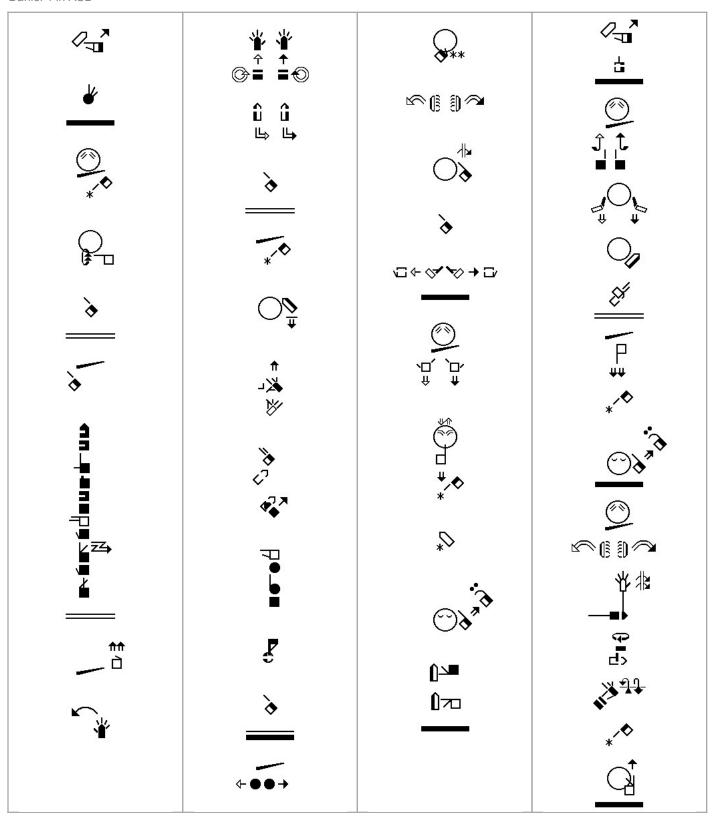
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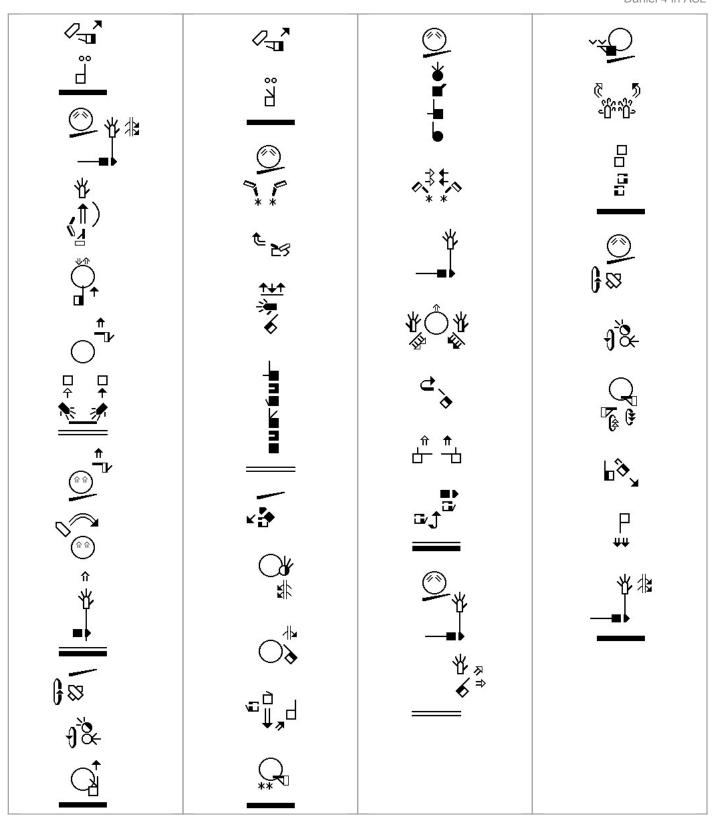
Verse 5. But one night I had a dream that frightened me; I saw visions that terrified me as I lay in my bed. Verse 6. So I issued an order calling in all the wise men of Babylon, so they could tell me what my dream meant.



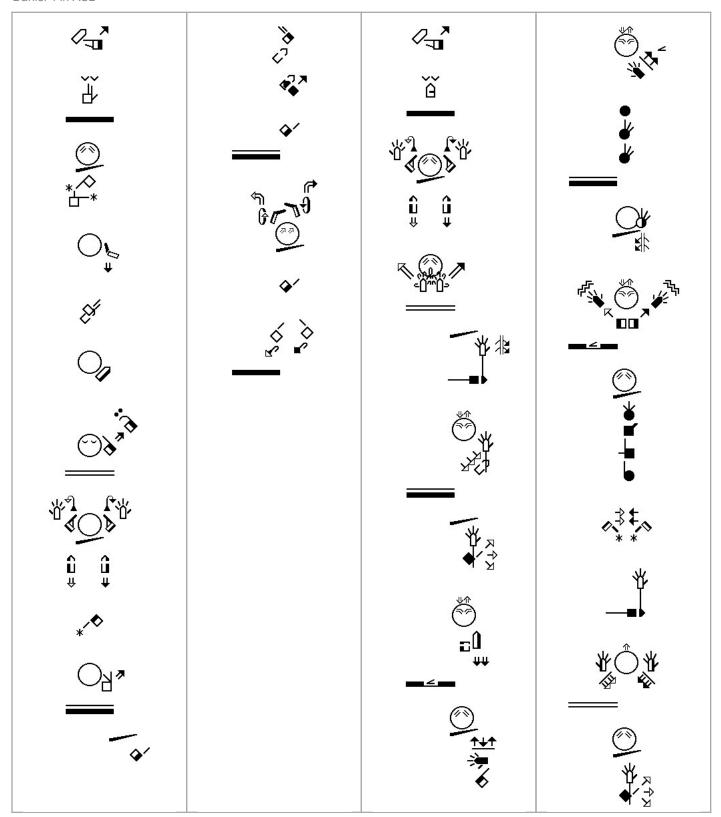
Verse 7. When all the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers came in, I told them the dream, but they could not tell me what it meant. Verse 8. At last Daniel came in before me, and I told him the dream. (He was named Belteshazzar after my god, and the spirit of the holy gods is in him.)



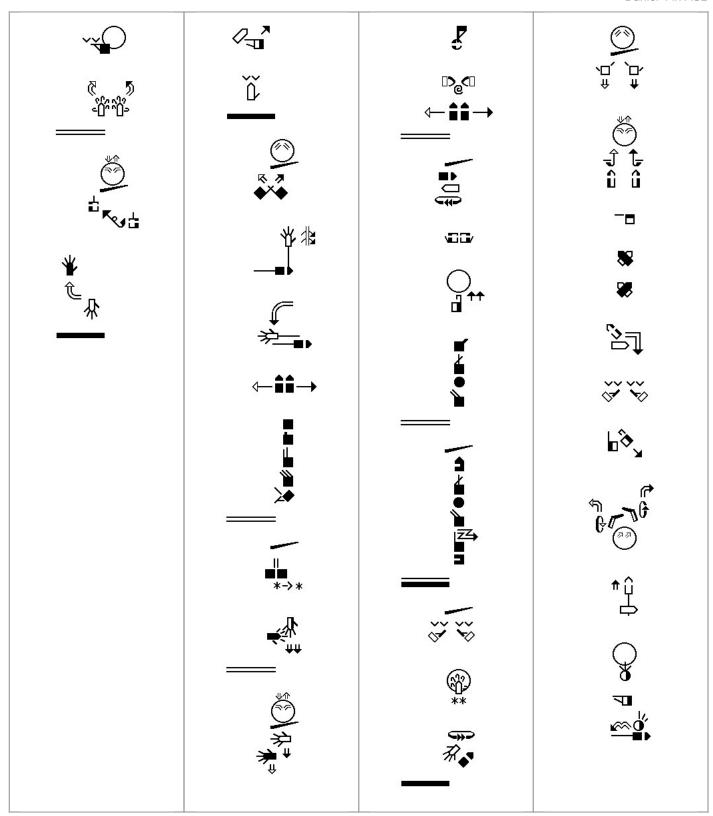
Verse 9. "I said to him, 'Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and that no mystery is too great for you to solve. Now tell me what my dream means. Verse 10. "While I was lying in my bed, this is what I dreamed. I saw a large tree in the middle of the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



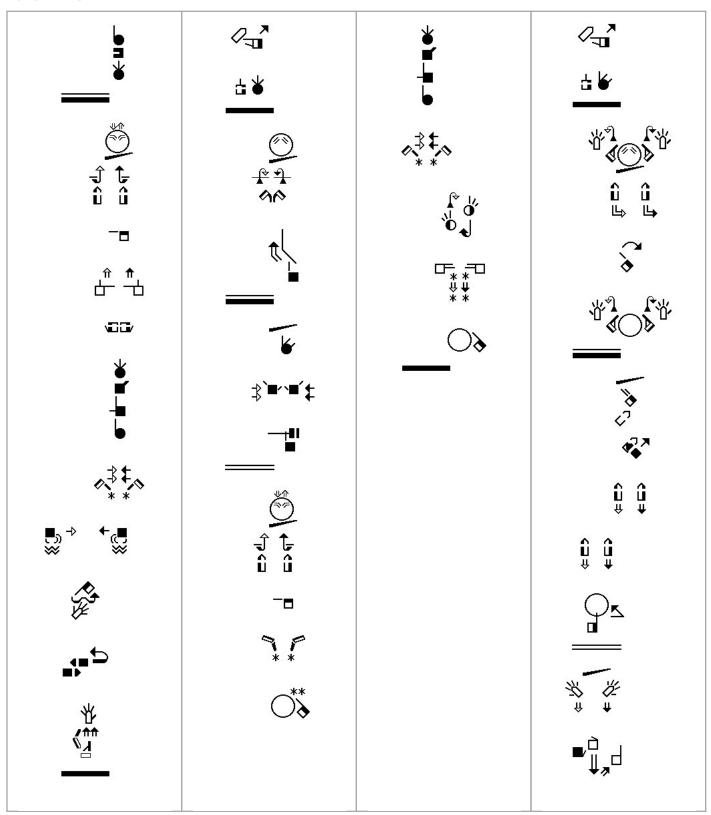
Verse 11. The tree grew very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens for all the world to see. Verse 12. It had fresh green leaves, and it was loaded with fruit for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. All the world was fed from this tree.



Verse 13. "Then as I lay there dreaming, I saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven. Verse 14. The messenger shouted, "Cut down the tree and lop off its branches! Shake off its leaves and scatter its fruit! Chase the wild animals NLT

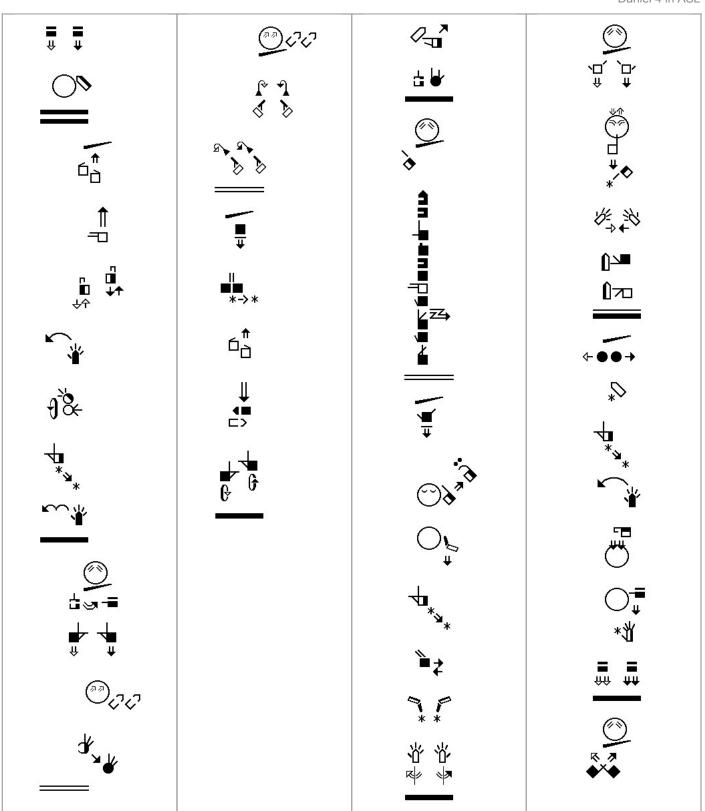


from its shade and the birds from its branches. Verse 15. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass. Now let him be drenched with the dew of heaven,

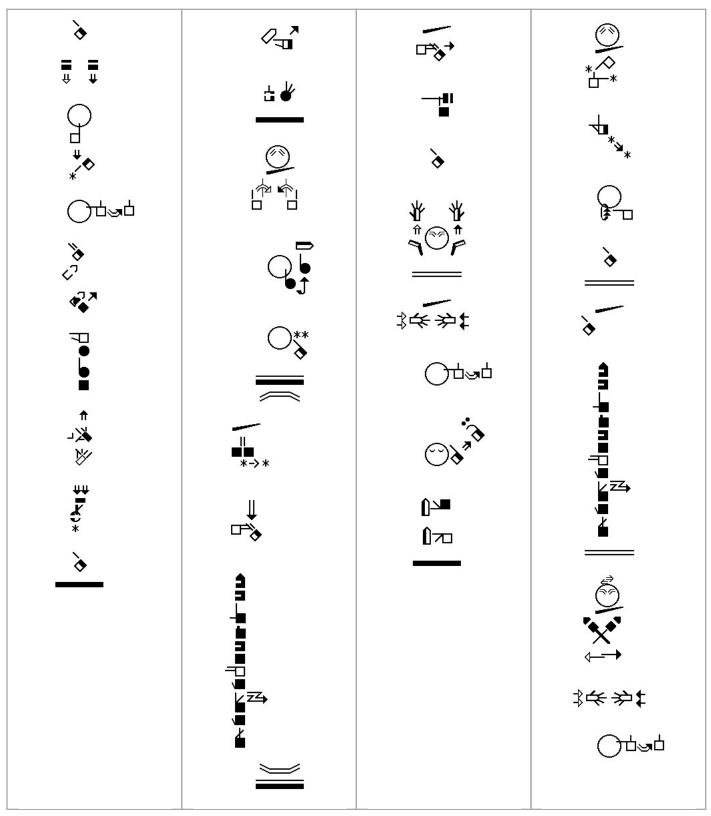


and let him live with the wild animals among the plants of the field. Verse 16. For seven periods of time, let him have the mind of a wild animal instead of the mind of a human. Verse 17. For this has been decreed by the messengers; it is commanded by the holy ones, so that everyone

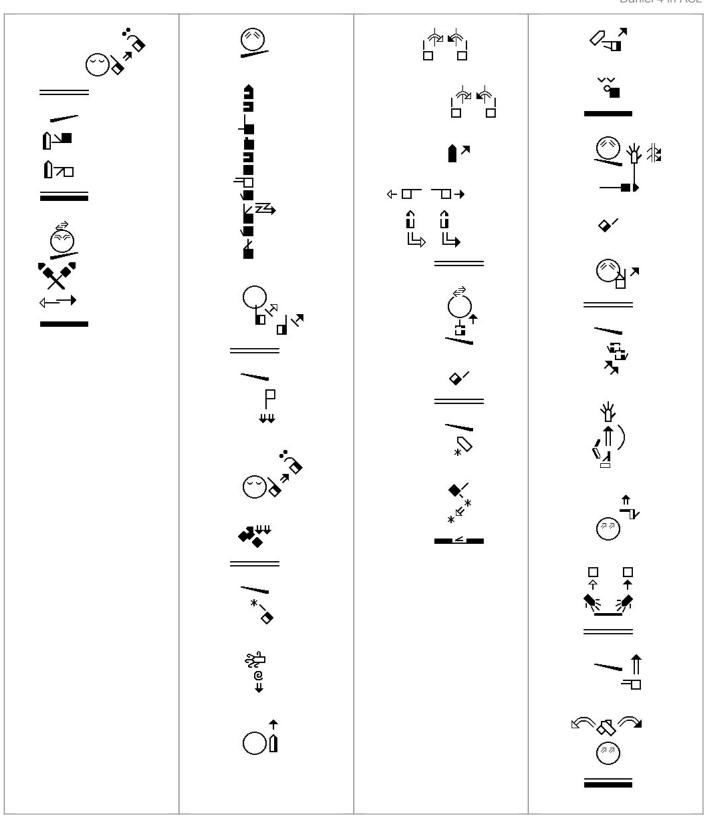
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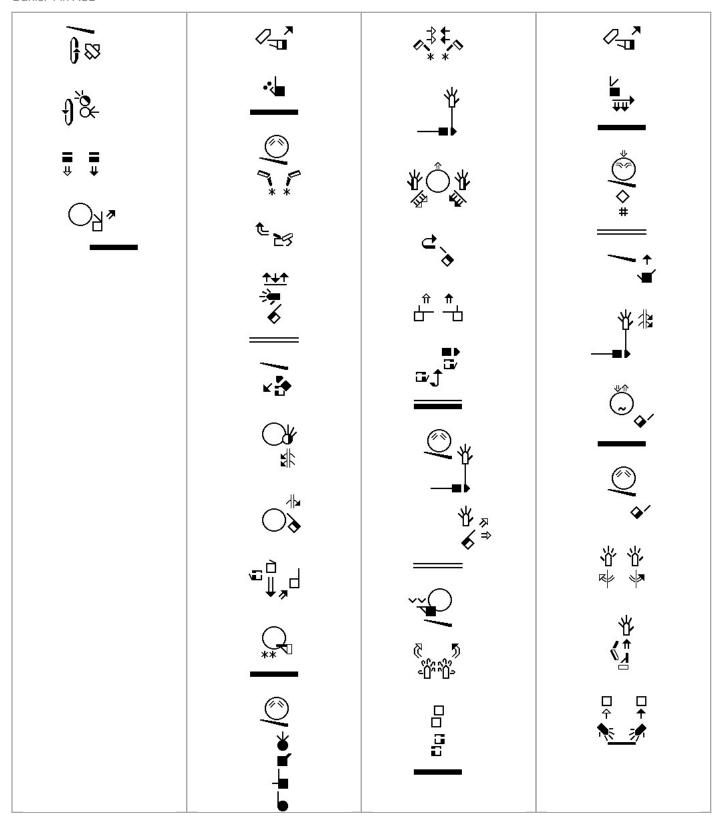
may know that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world. He gives them to anyone he chooses -- even to the lowliest of people." Verse 18. "Belteshazzar, that was the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezar, had. Now tell me what it means, for none of the wise men of my kingdom can do so. But



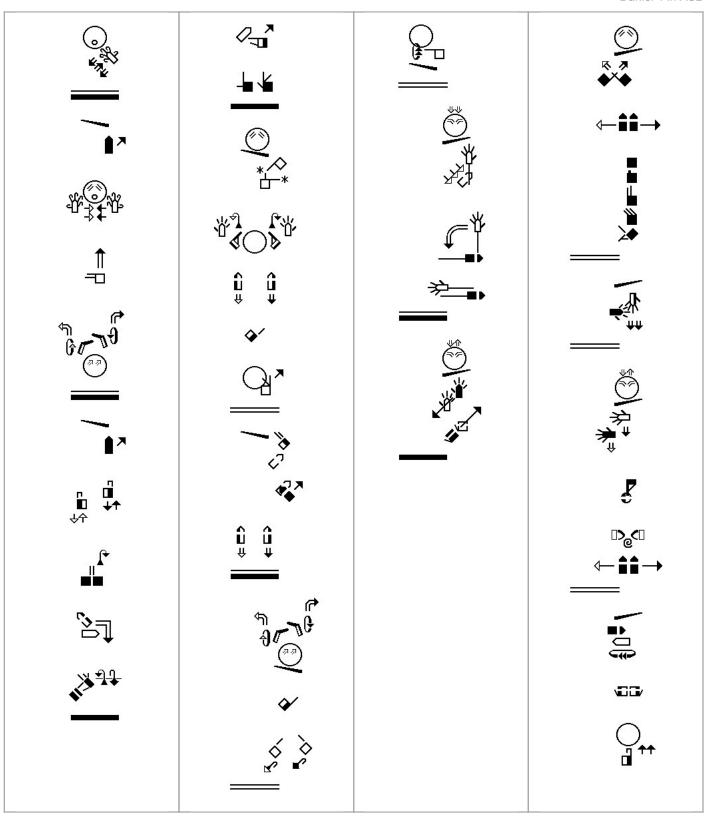
you can tell me because the spirit of the holy gods is in you.' Verse 19. "Upon hearing this, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) was overcome for a time, frightened by the meaning of the dream. Then the king said to him, 'Belteshazzar, don't be alarmed by the NLT



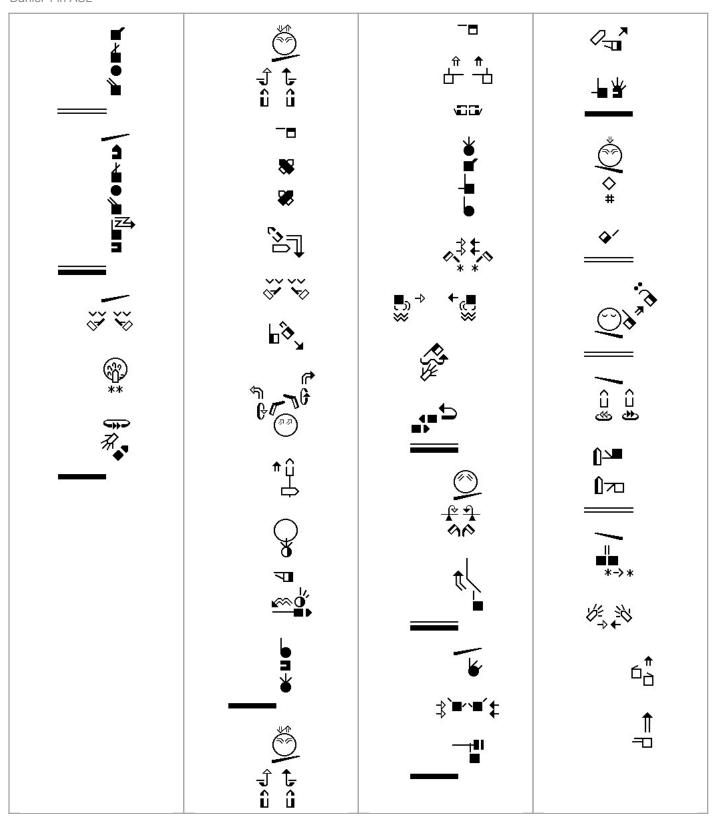
dream and what it means.' "Belteshazzar replied, 'I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you! Verse 20. The tree you saw was growing very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens NLT



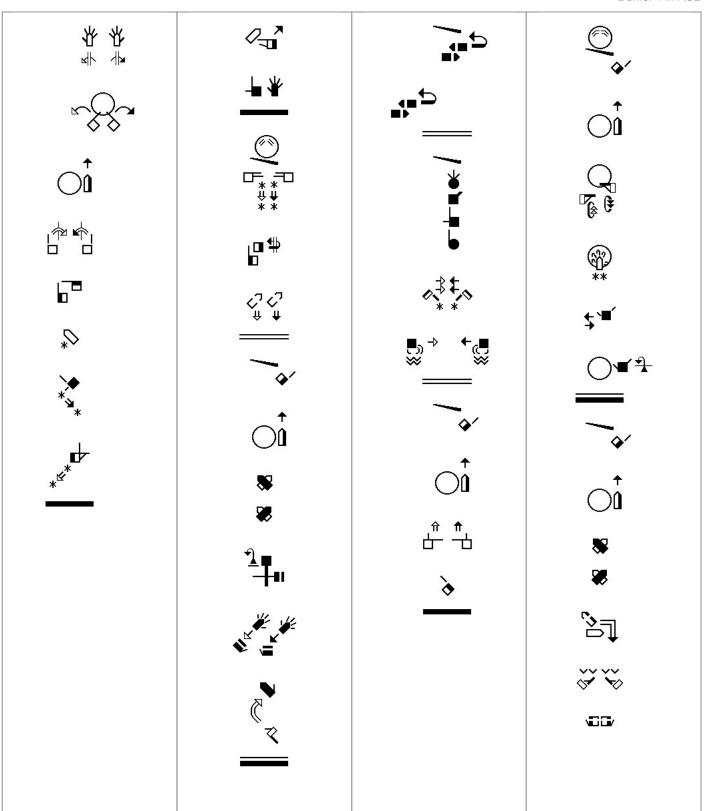
for all the world to see. Verse 21. It had fresh green leaves and was loaded with fruit for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. Verse 22. That tree, Your Majesty, is you. For you have grown strong

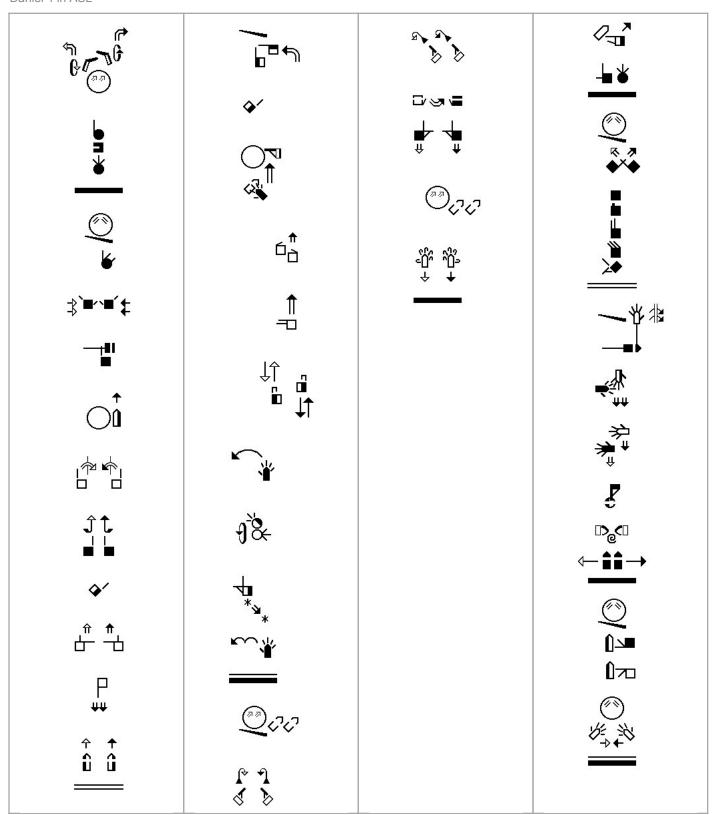


and great; your greatness reaches up to heaven, and your rule to the ends of the earth. Verse 23. "Then you saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, "Cut down the tree and destroy it. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of NLT

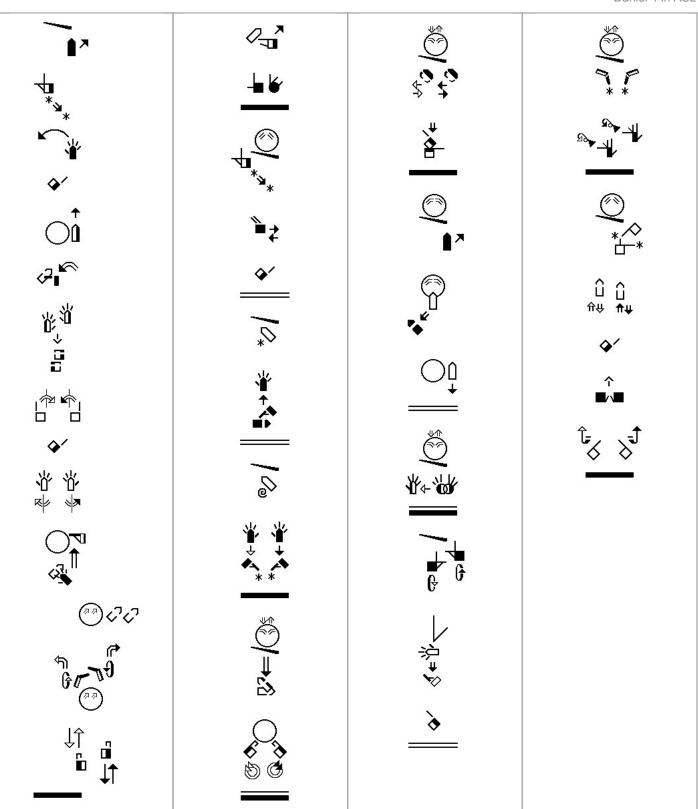


iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven. Let him live with the animals of the field for seven periods of time." Verse 24. "'This is what the dream means, Your Majesty, and what the Most High NLT

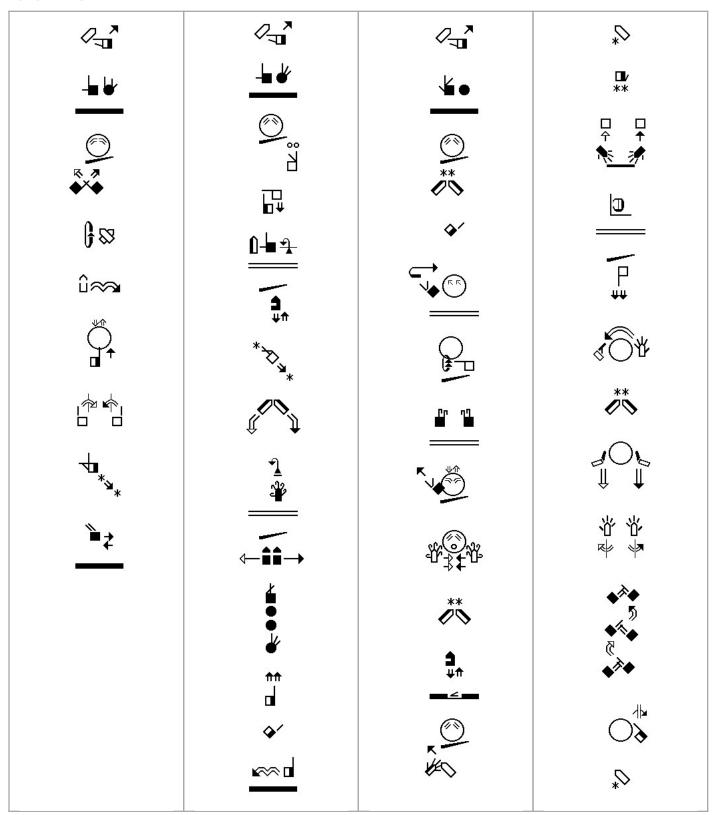




the dew of heaven. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses. Verse 26. But the stump and roots of the tree were left in the ground. This means

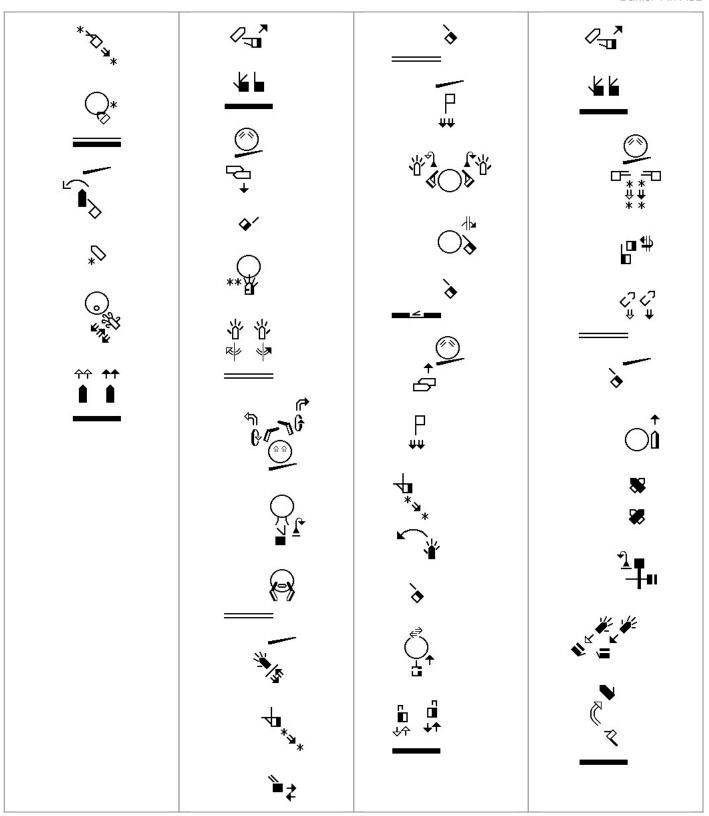


that you will receive your kingdom back again when you have learned that heaven rules. Verse 27. "'King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.'



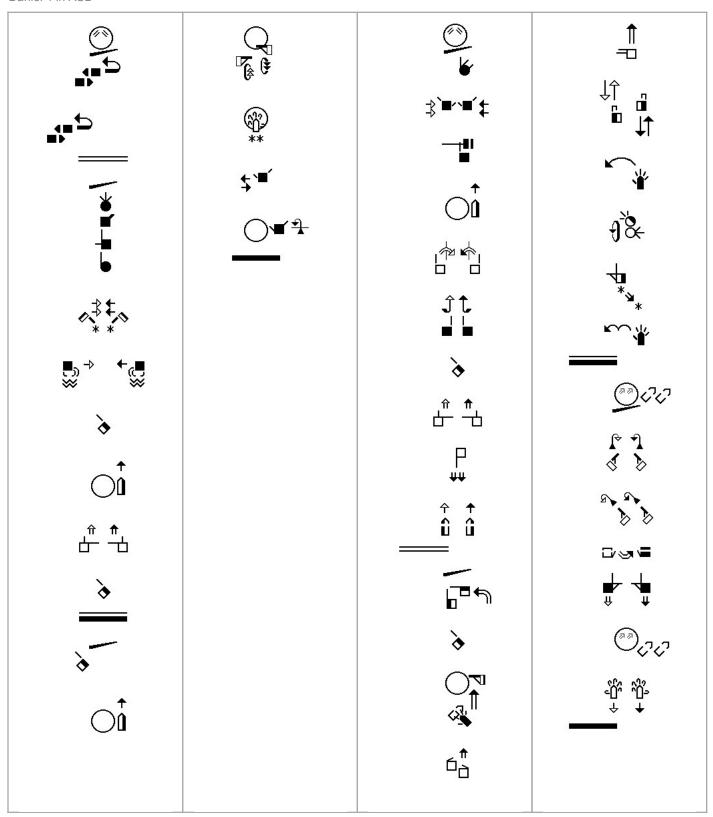
Verse 28. "But all these things did happen to King Nebuchadnezzar. Verse 29. Twelve months later he was taking a walk on the flat roof of the royal palace in Babylon. Verse 30. As he looked out across the city, he said, 'Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful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

NLT

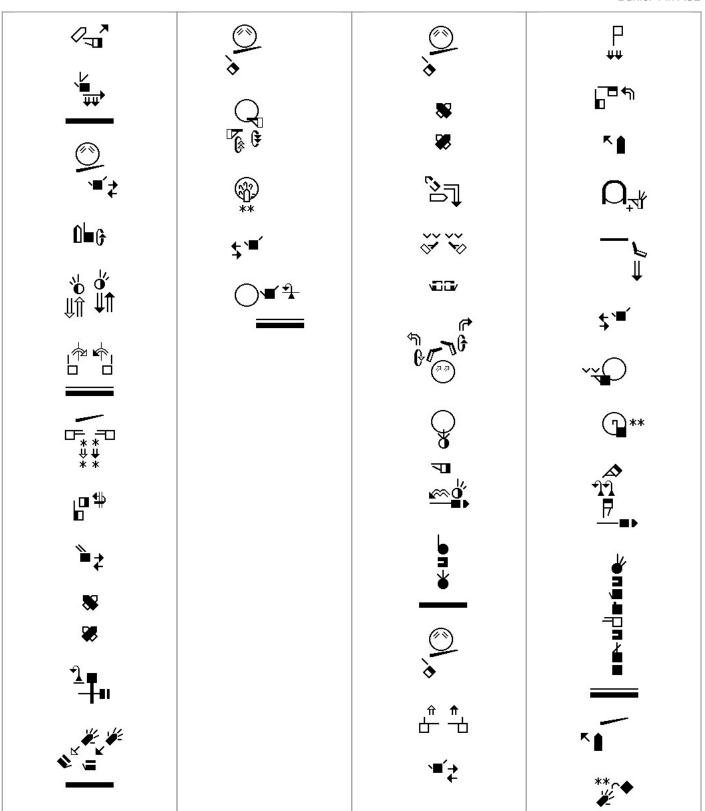


royal residence to display my majestic splendor.' Verse 31. "While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven,'O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. Verse 32. You will be driven from human society.

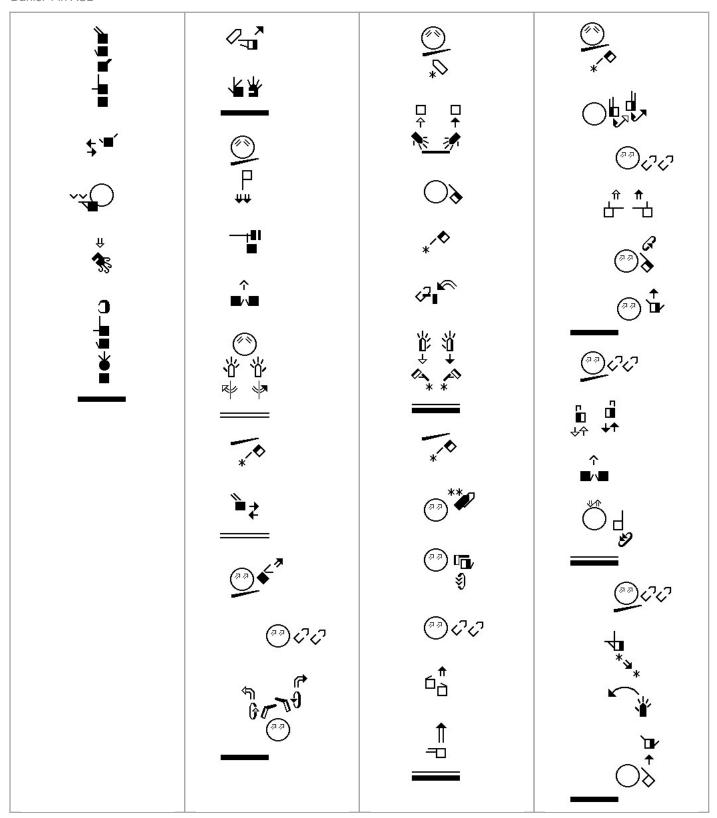
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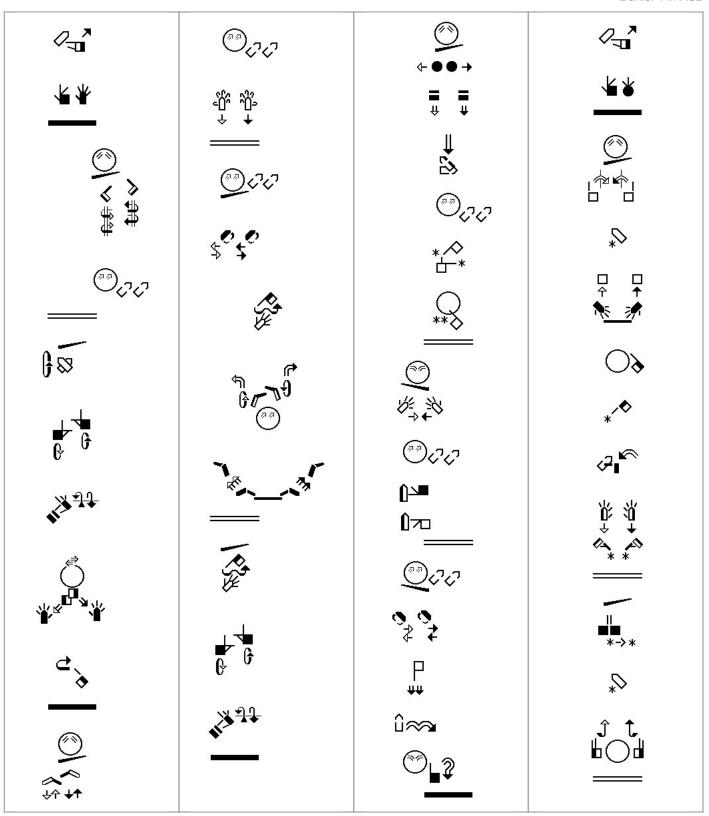
You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.'



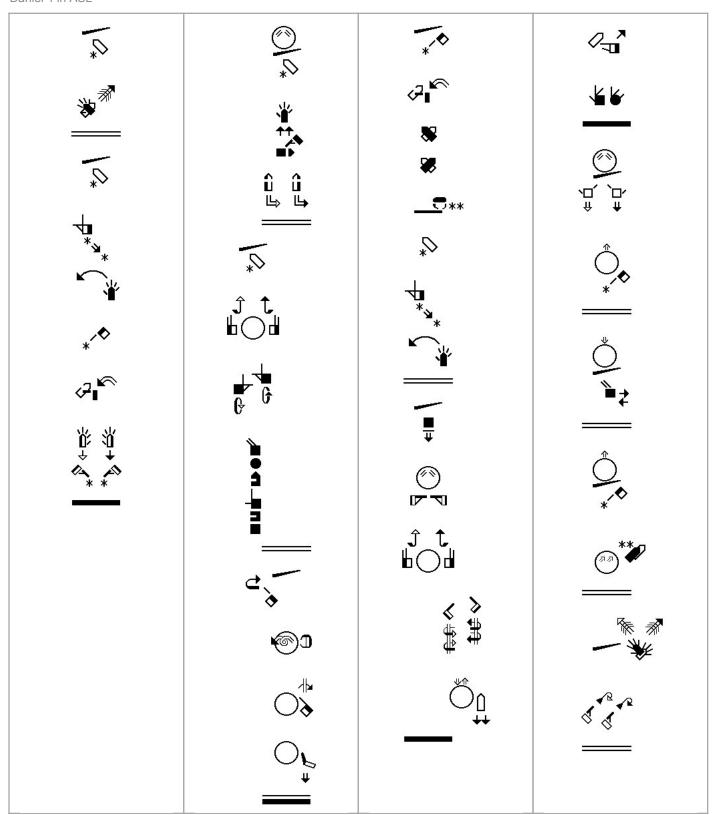
Verse 33. "That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles' feathers and his nails NLT



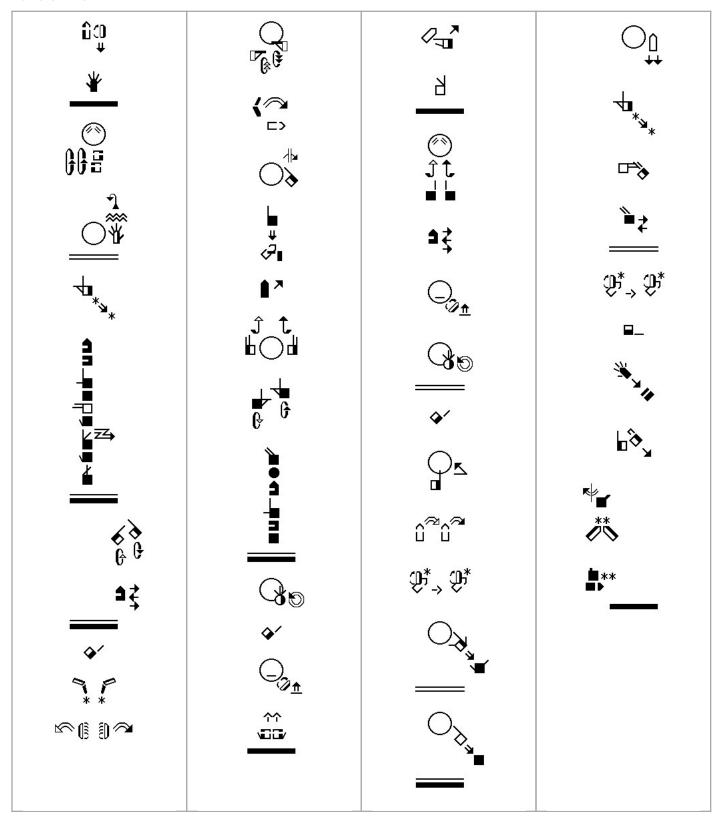
were like birds' claws. Verse 34. "After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. His rule is everlasting and his kingdom is eternal. NLT



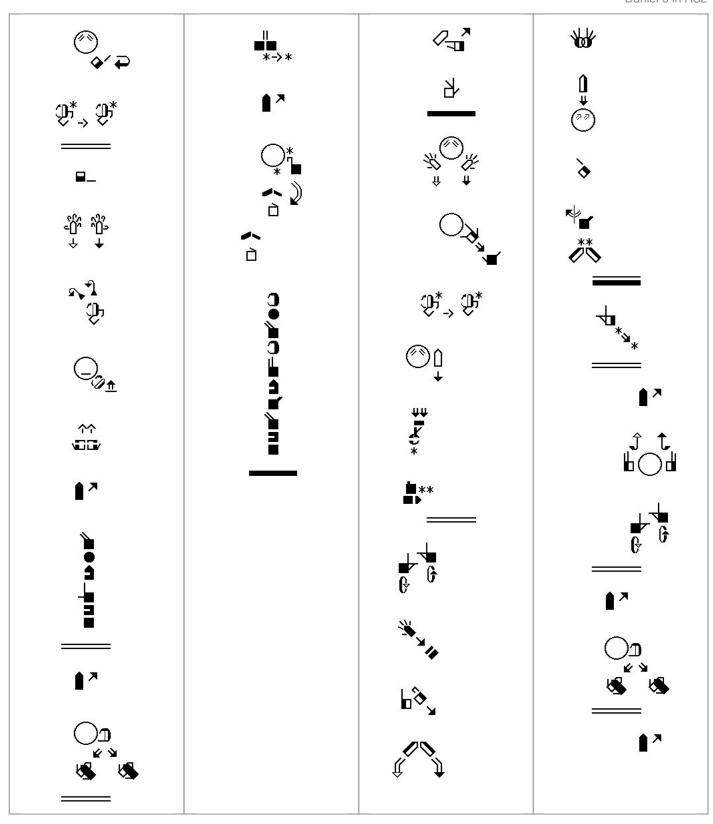
Verse 35. All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, 'What do you mean by doing these things?' Verse 36. "When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor NLT



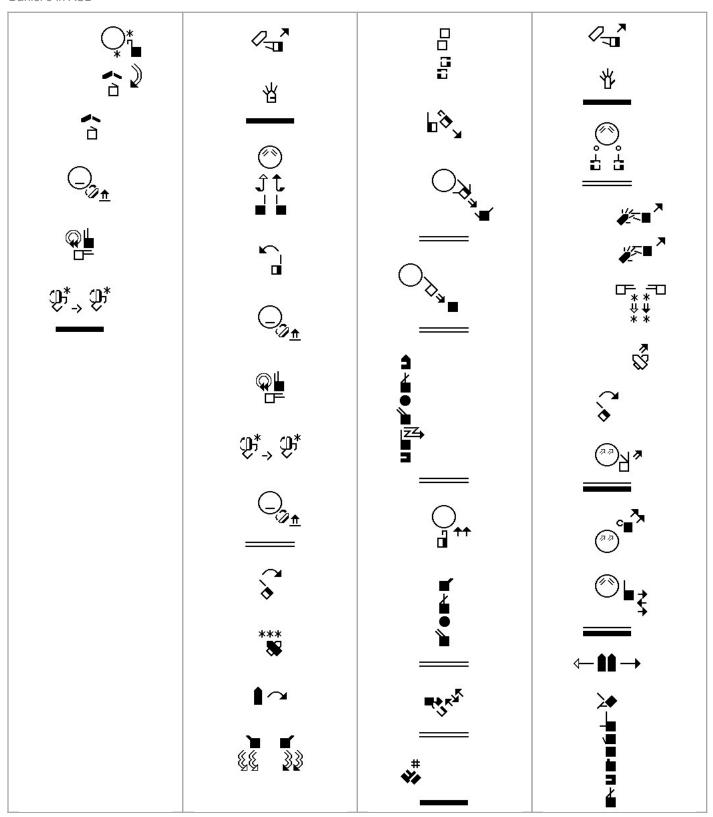
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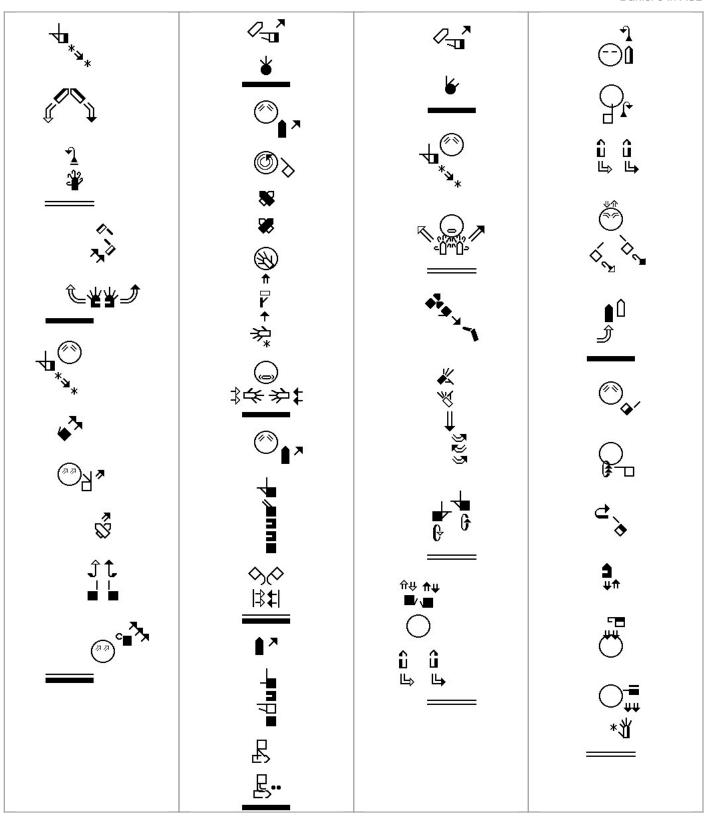
Chapter 5. Many years later King Belshazzar gave a great feast for 1,000 of his nobles, and he drank wine with them. Verse 2. While Belshazzar was drinking the wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver cups that his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem.



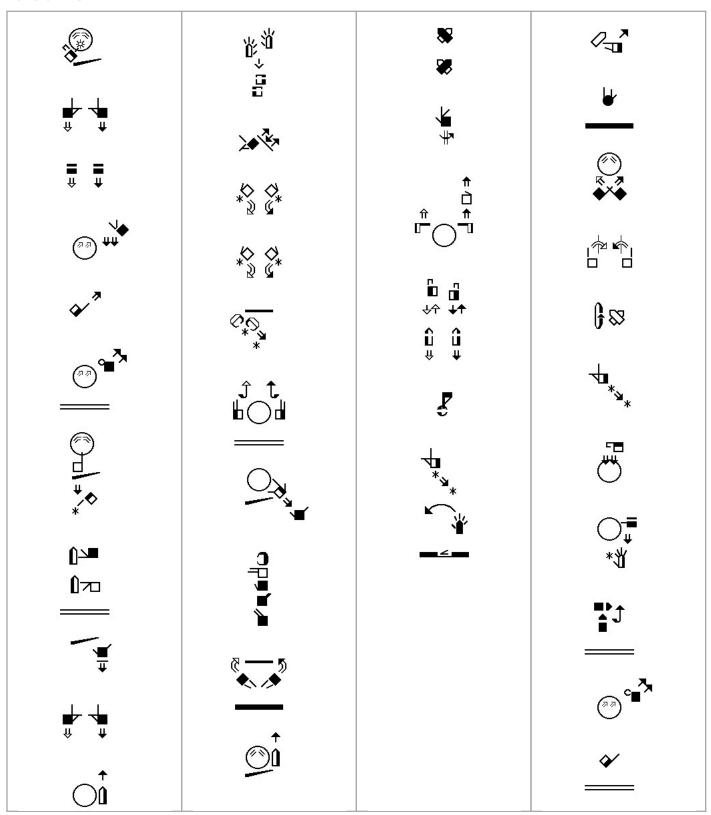
He wanted to drink from them with his nobles, his wives, and his concubines. Verse 3. So they brought these gold cups taken from the Temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives, and his



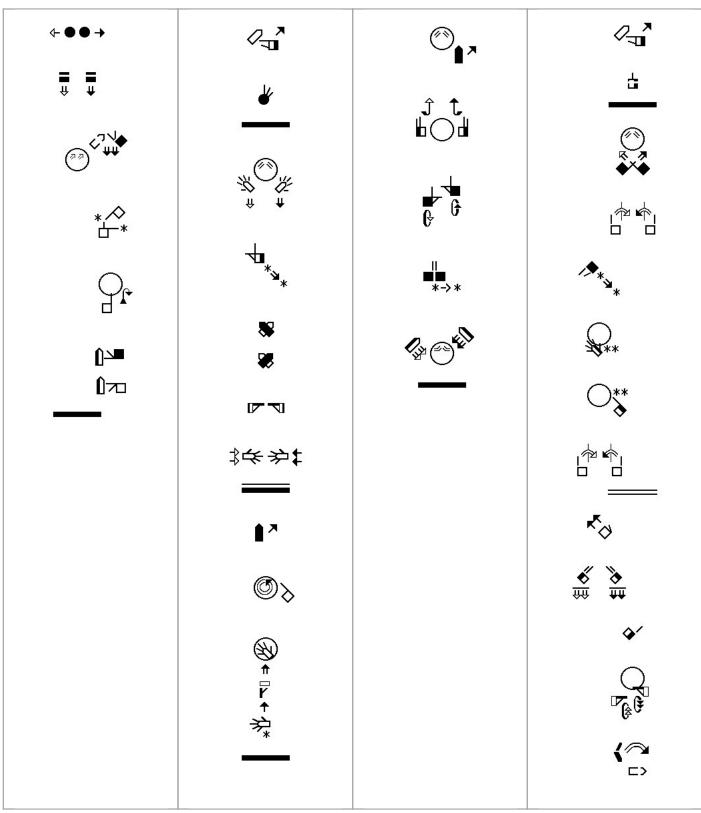
concubines drank from them. Verse 4. While they drank from them they praised their idols made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. Verse 5. Suddenly, they saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall



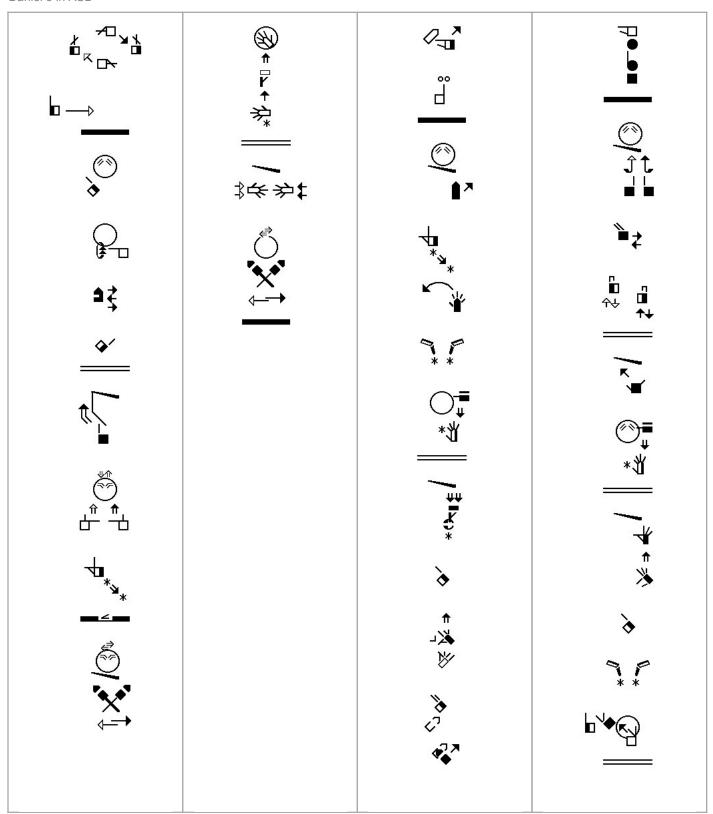
of the king's palace, near the lampstand. The king himself saw the hand as it wrote, Verse 6. and his face turned pale with fright. His knees knocked together in fear and his legs gave way beneath him. Verse 7. The king shouted for the enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers to be brought before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



"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,



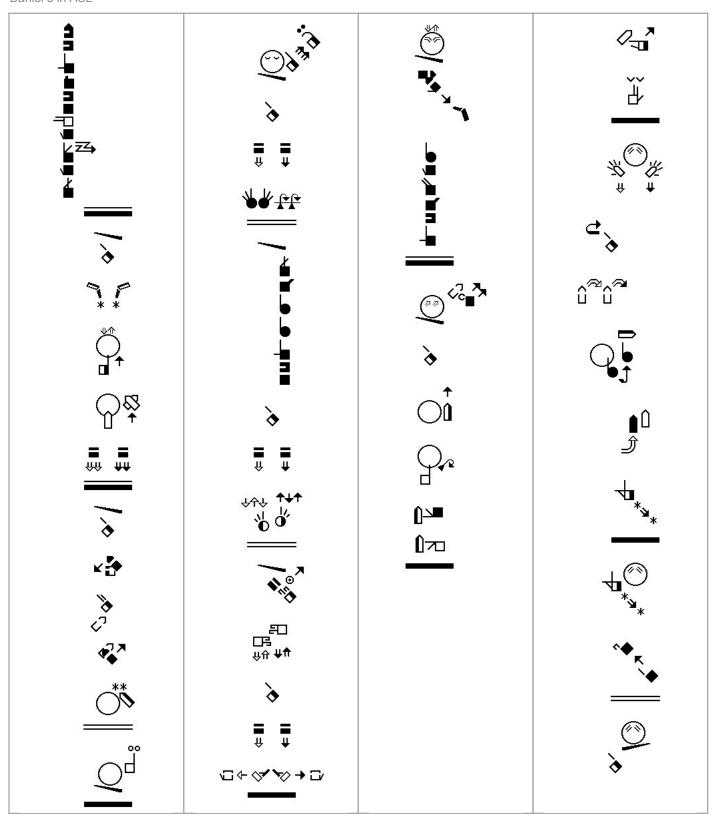
none of them could read the writing or tell him what it meant. Verse 9. So the king grew even more alarmed, and his face turned pale. His nobles, too, were shaken. Verse 10. But when the queen mother heard what was happening, she hurried to the banquet NLT



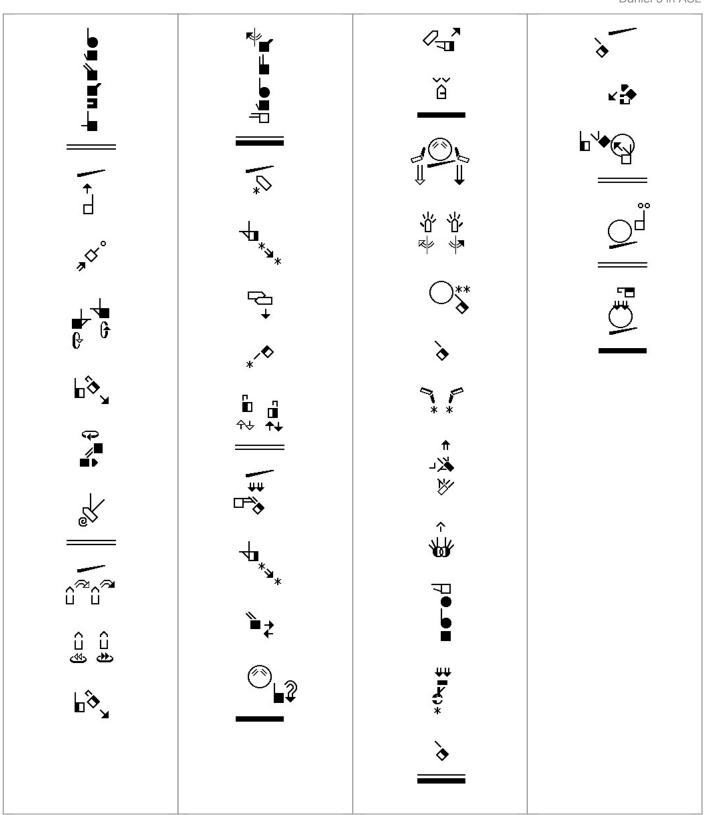
hall. She said to Belshazzar, "Long live the king! Don't be so pale and frightened. Verse 11. There is a man in your kingdom who has within him the spirit of the holy gods. During Nebuchadnezzar's reign, this man was found to have insight,

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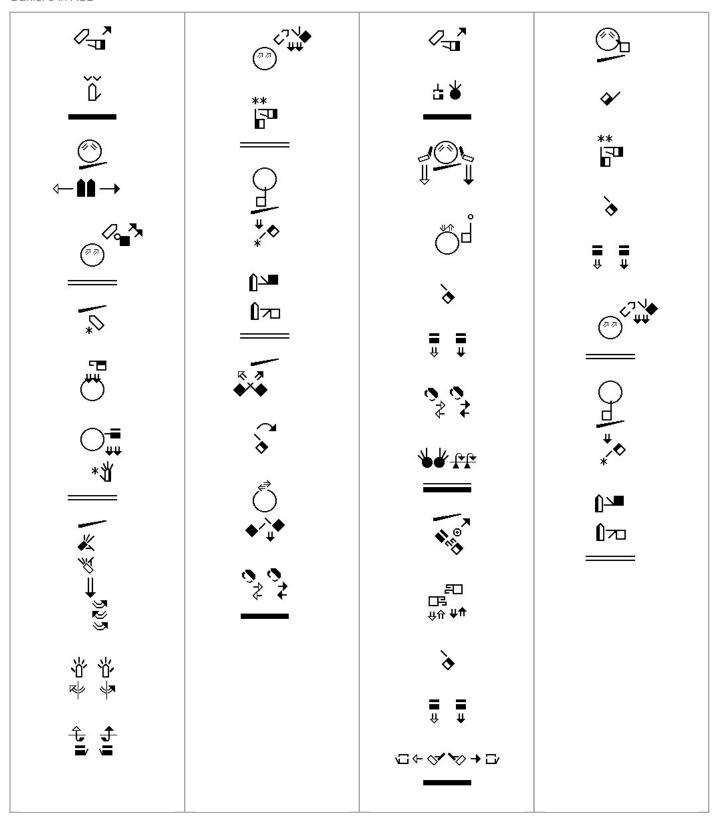
understanding, and wisdom like that of the gods. Your predecessor, the king -- your predecessor King Nebuchadnezzar -- made him chief over all the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers of Babylon. Verse 12. This man Daniel, whom the king named



Belteshazzar, 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

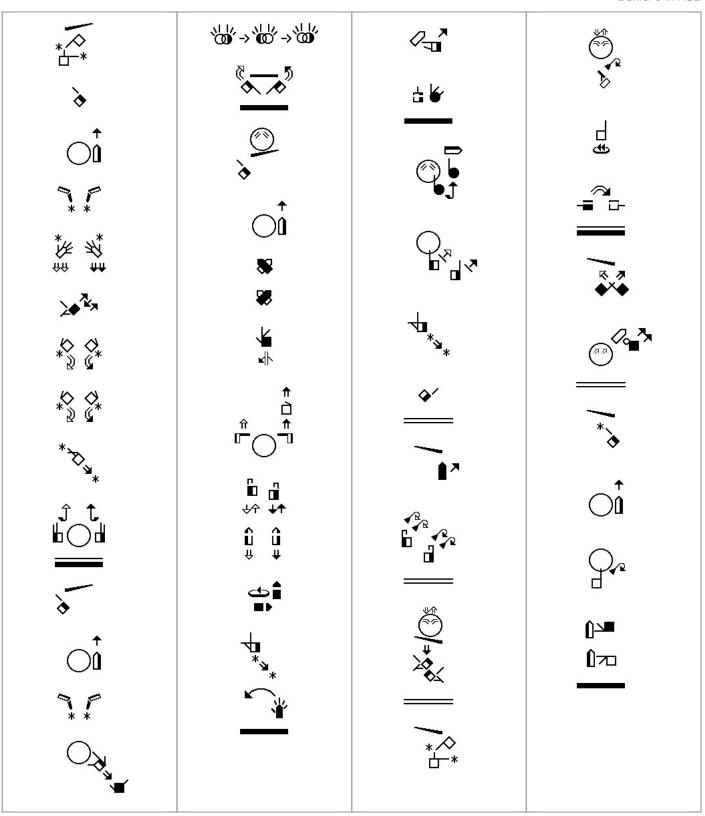


Daniel, one of the exiles brought from Judah by my predecessor, King Nebuchadnezzar? Verse 14. I have heard that you have the spirit of the gods within you and that you are filled with insight, understanding, and wisdom.

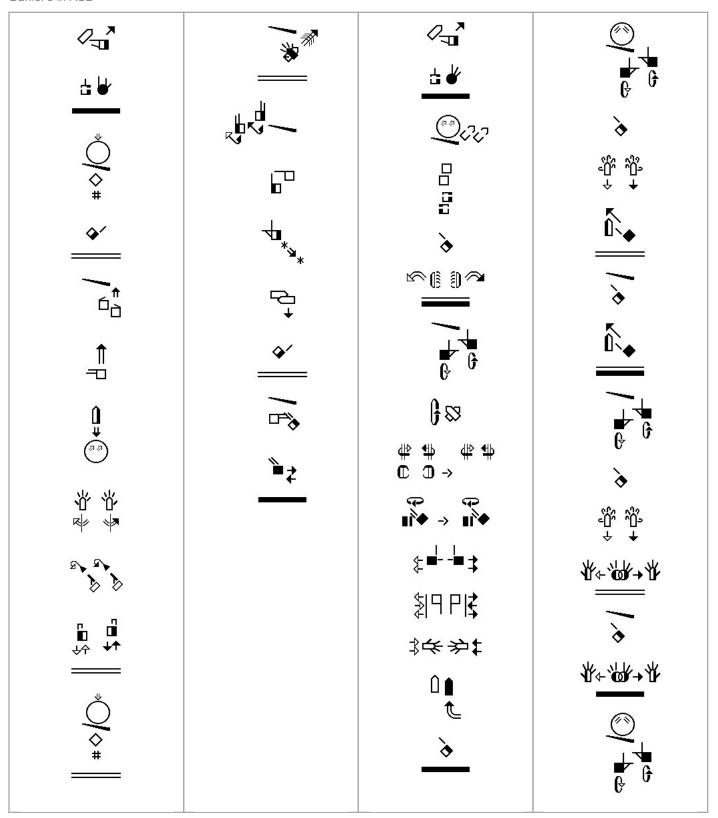


Verse 15. My wise men and enchanters have tried to read the words on the wall and tell me their meaning, but they cannot do it. Verse 16. I am told that you can give interpretations and solve difficult problems. If you can read these words and tell me their meaning,

NLT



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.

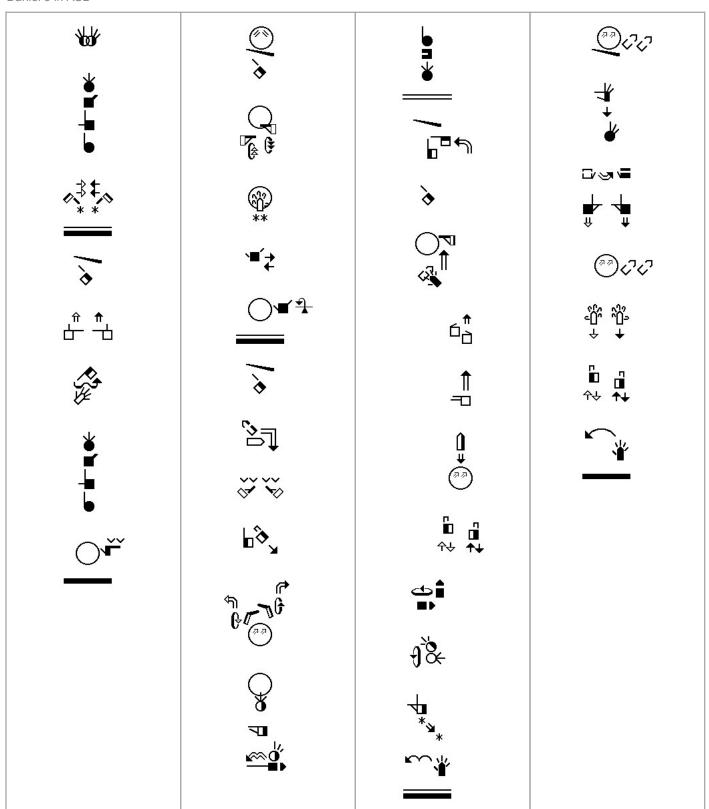


Verse 18. Your Majesty, the Most High God gave sovereignty, majesty, glory, and honor to your predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar. Verse 19. He made him so great that people of all races and nations and languages trembled before him in fear. He killed those he wanted to kill and spared those he wanted to spare.

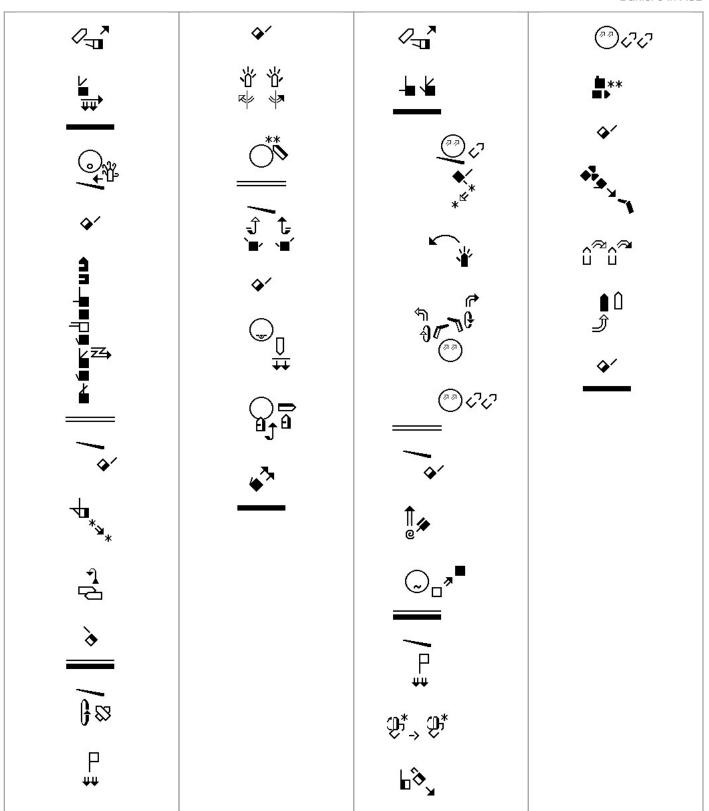
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He honored those he wanted to honor and disgraced those he wanted to disgrace. Verse 20. But when his heart and mind were puffed up with arrogance, he was brought down from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. Verse 21. He was driven from human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

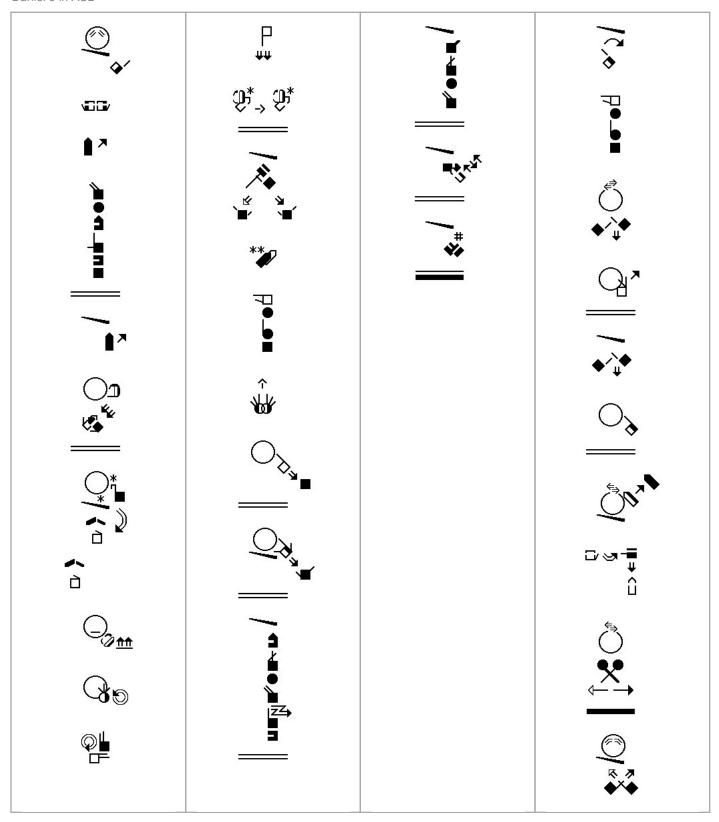
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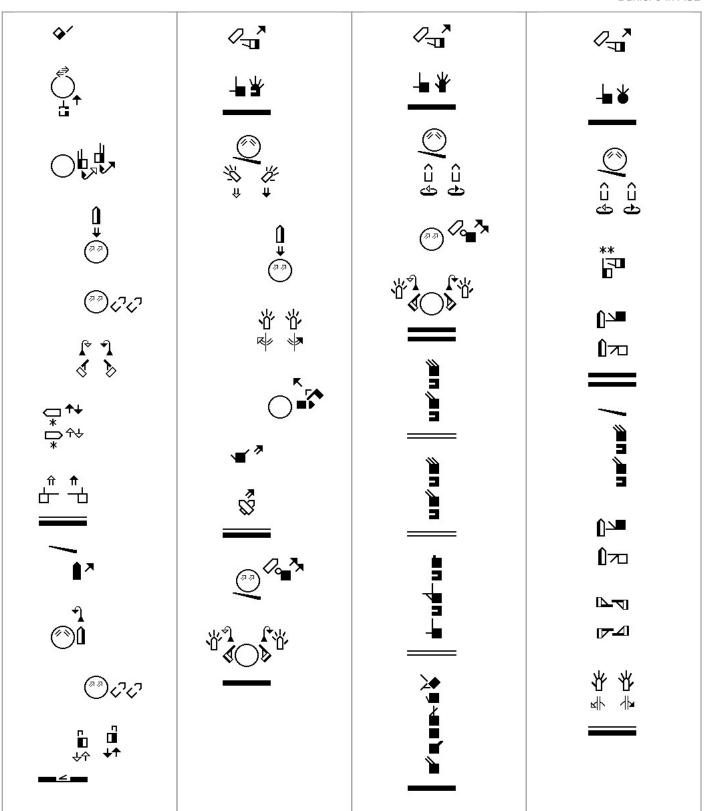
of a wild animal, and he lived among the wild donkeys. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdoms of the world and appoints anyone he desires to rule over them.



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.



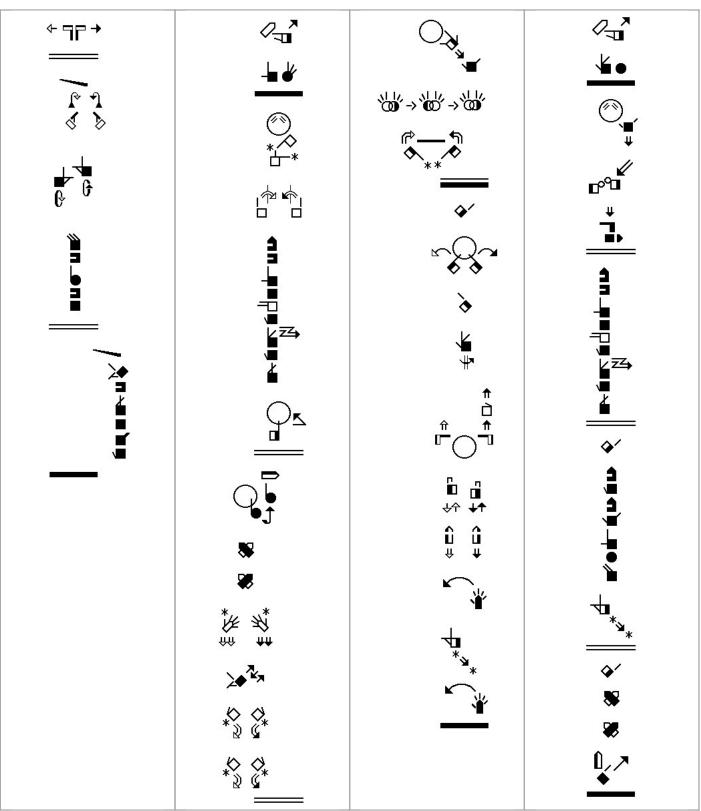
You and your nobles and your wives and concubines have been drinking wine from them while praising gods of silver, gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone -- gods that neither see nor hear nor know anything at all. But NLT



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

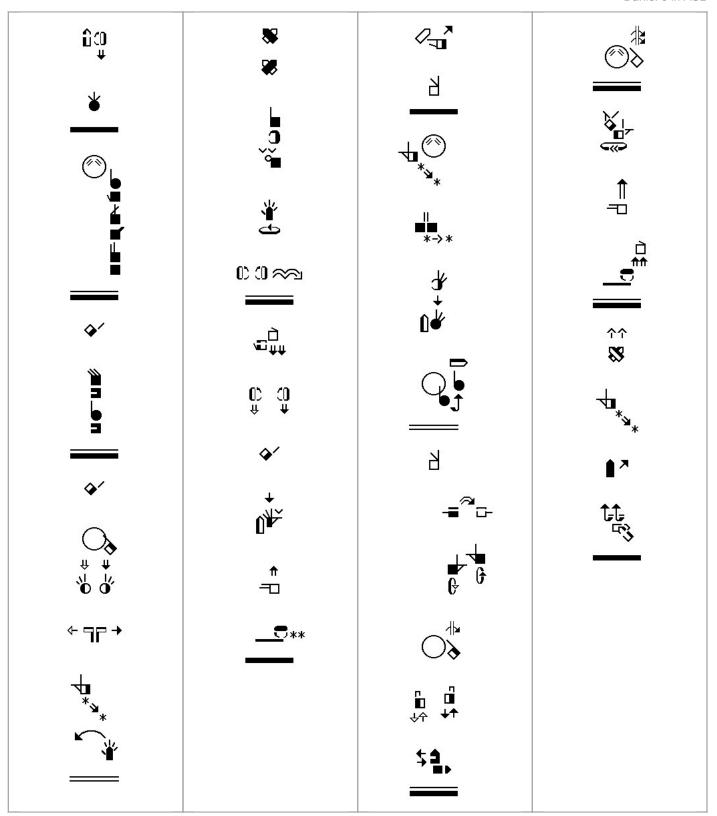
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God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end. Verse 27. Tekel means 'weighed' -- you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up. Verse 28. Parsin means 'divided' -- your kingdom has been NLT

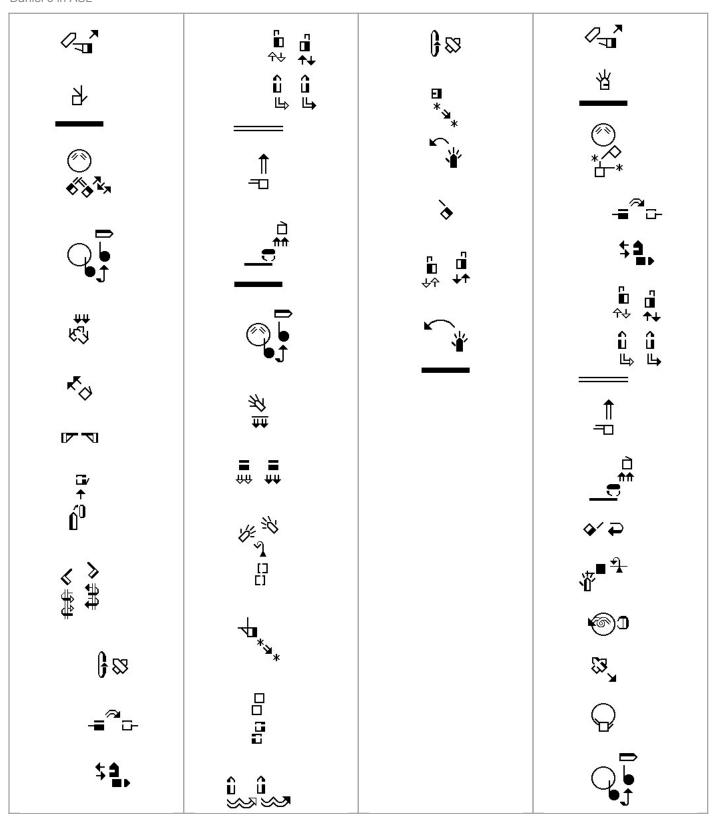


divided and given to the Medes and Persians." Verse 29. Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was dressed in purple robes, a gold chain was hung around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom. Verse 30. That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.

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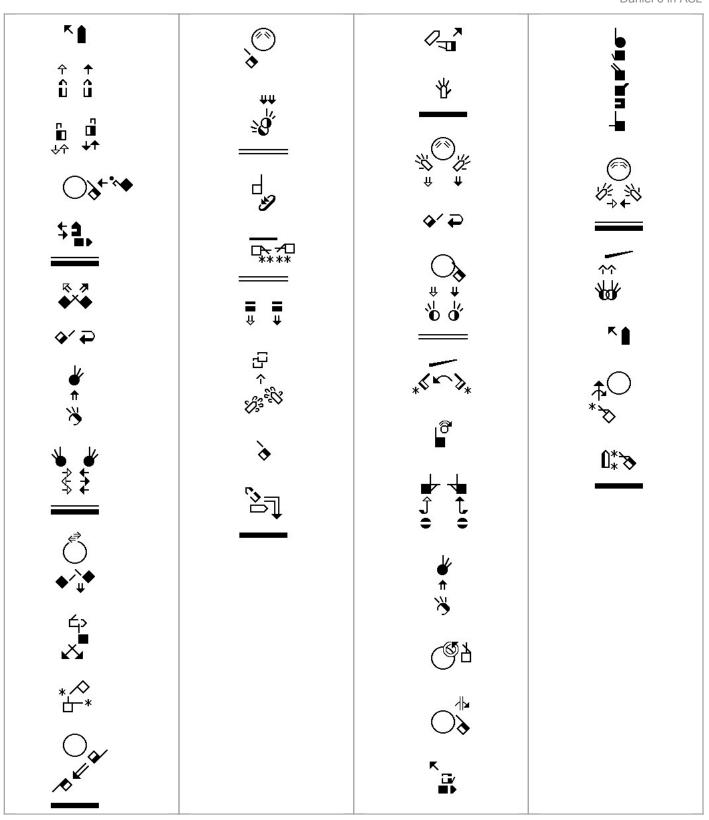


Chapter 6. Darius the Mede decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed a high officer to rule over each province. Verse 2. The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king's interests.

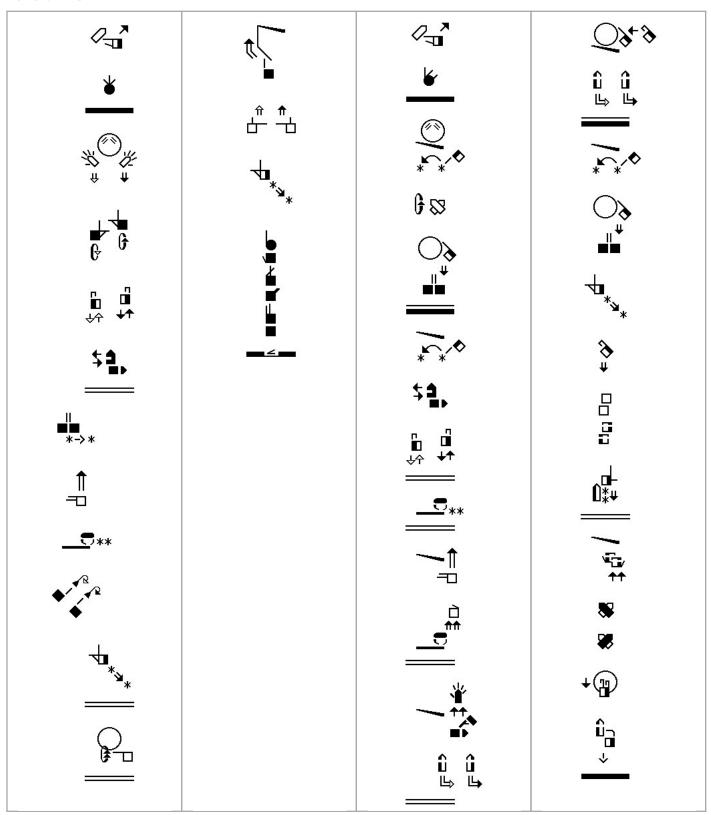


Verse 3. Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire. Verse 4. Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel

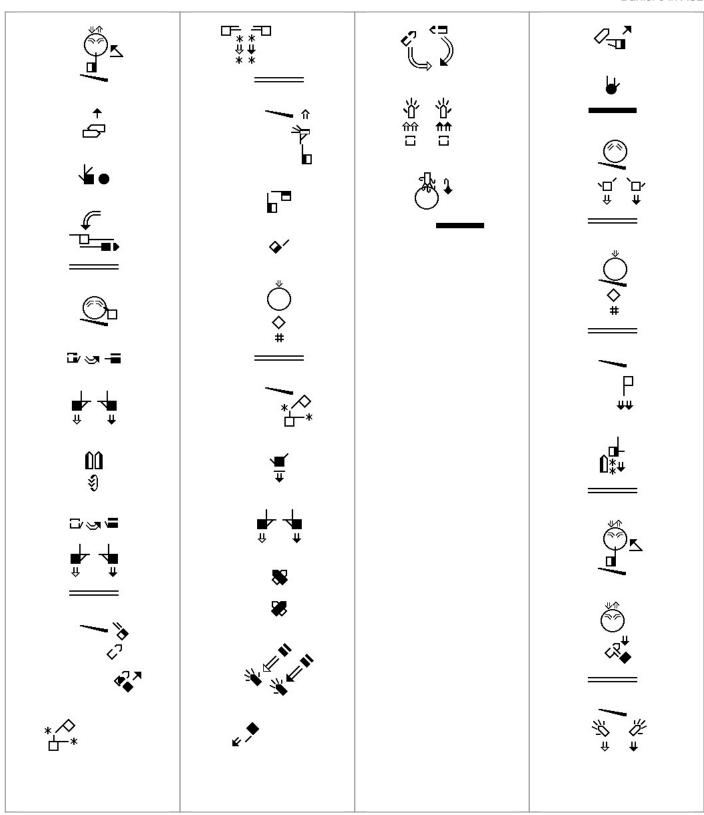
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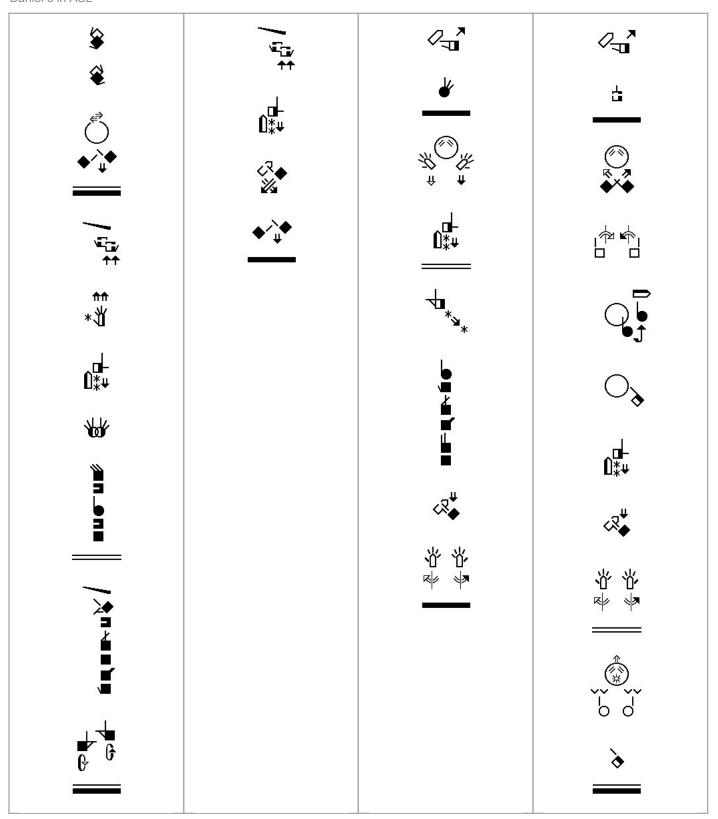
was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy. Verse 5. So they concluded, "Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion."



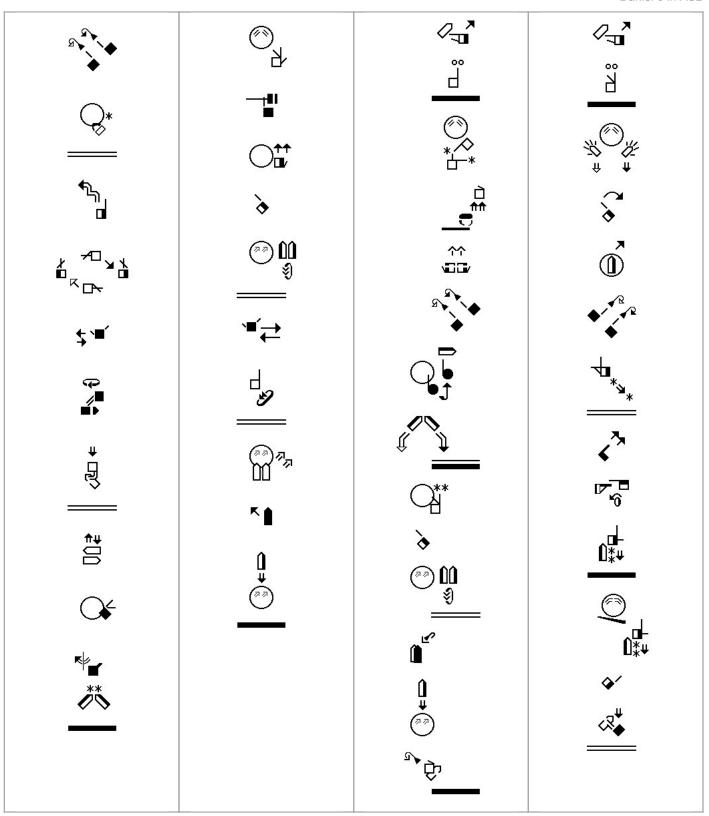
Verse 6. So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, "Long live King Darius! Verse 7. We are all in agreement -- we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors -- that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced.



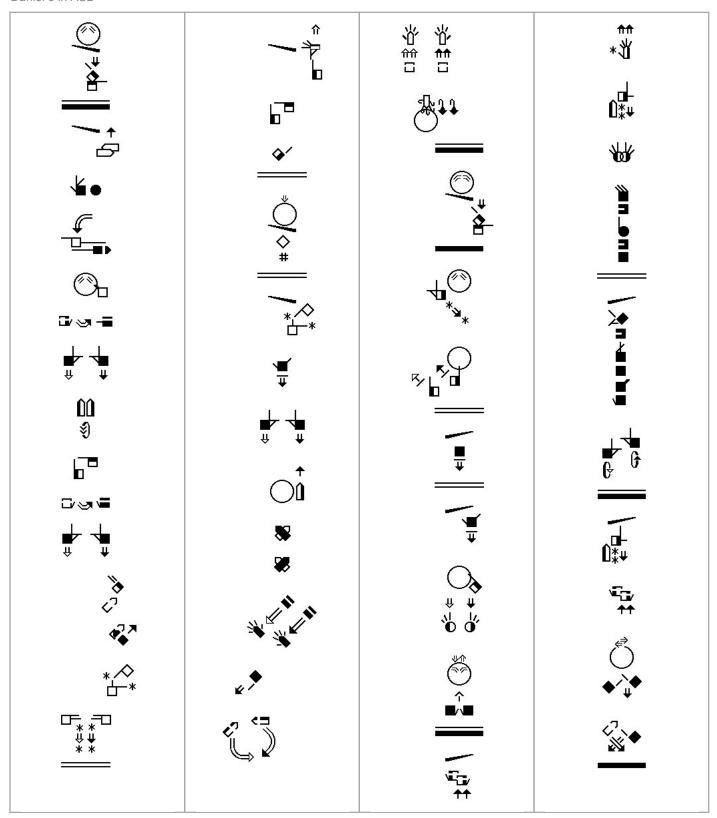
Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human -- except to you, Your Majesty -- will be thrown into the den of lions. Verse 8. And now, Your Majesty, issue and sign this law so



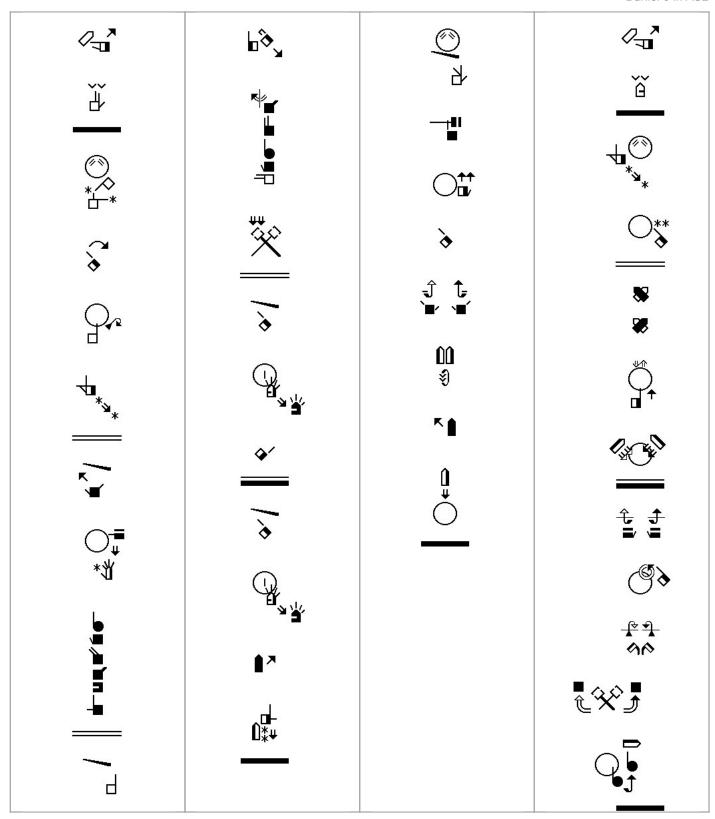
it cannot be changed, an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked." Verse 9. So King Darius signed the law. Verse 10. But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed,



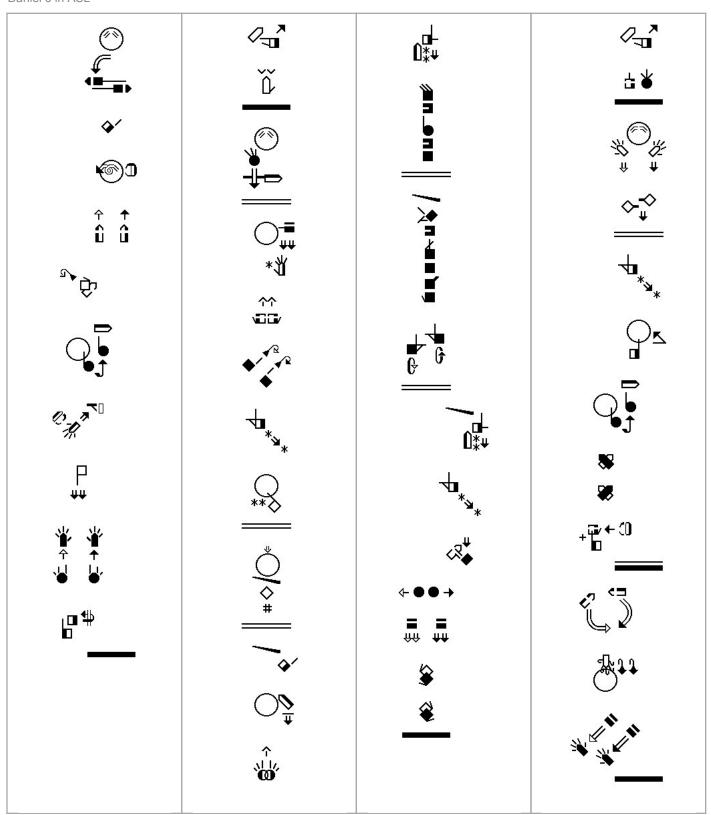
he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Verse 11. Then the officials went together to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking for God's help. Verse 12. So they went straight to the king and reminded him about his law. "Did you not sign a law NLT



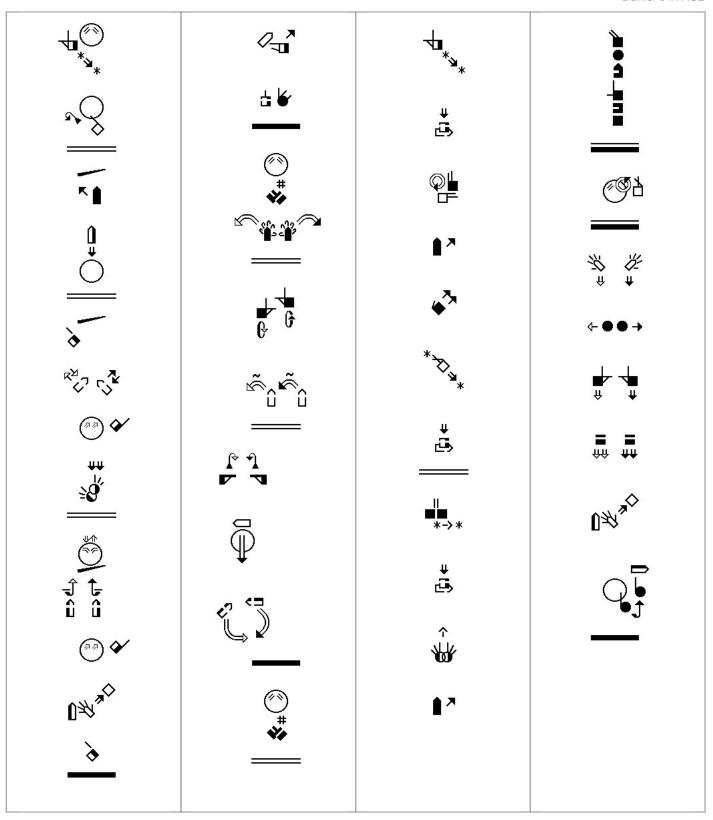
that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human -- except to you, Your Majesty -- will be thrown into the den of lions?" "Yes," the king replied, "that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked." NLT



Verse 13. Then they told the king, "That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is ignoring you and your law. He still prays to his God three times a day." Verse 14. Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. NLT

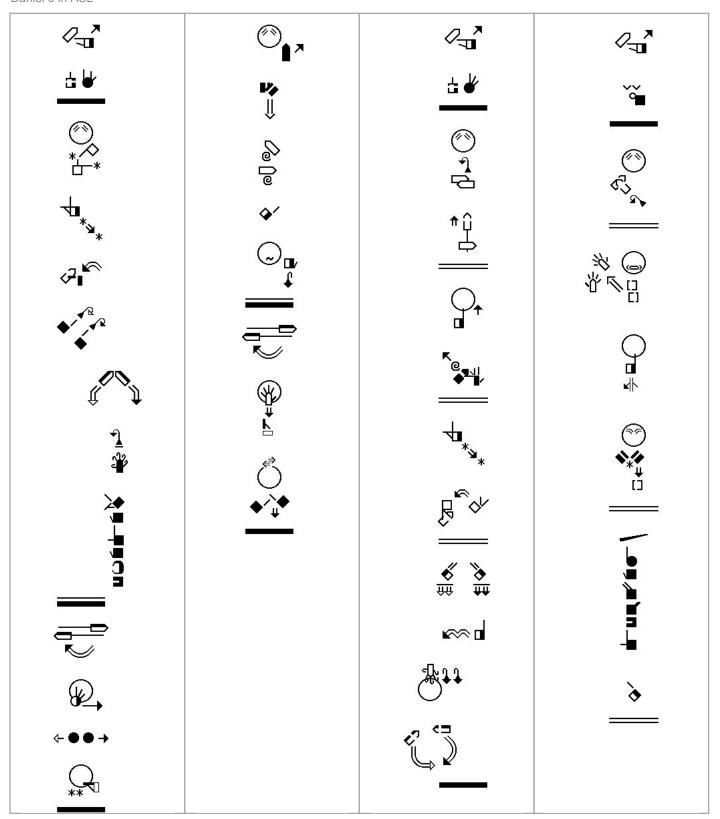


He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament. Verse 15. In the evening the men went together to the king and said, "Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed." Verse 16. So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. NLT

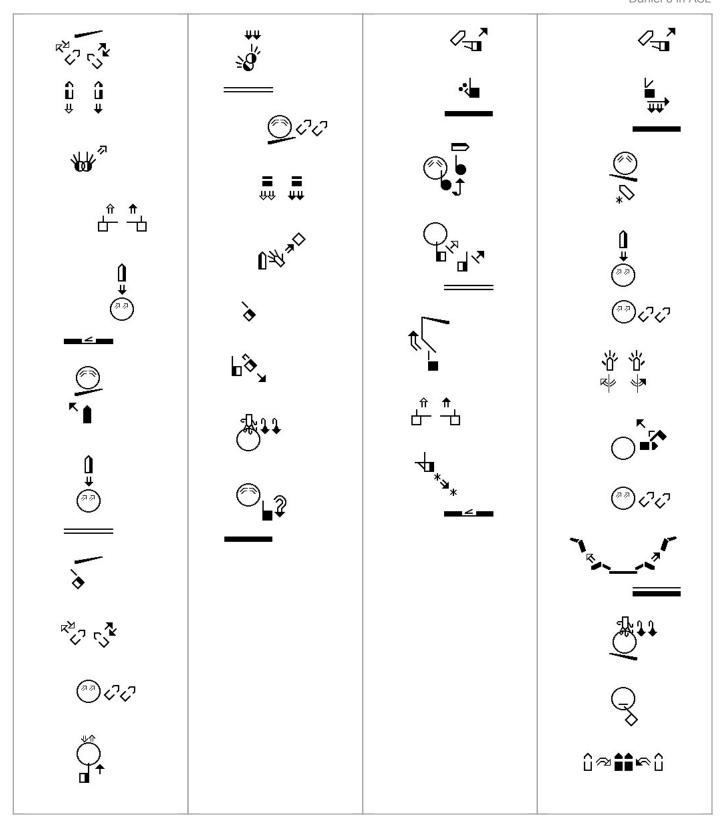


The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you." Verse 17. A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel.

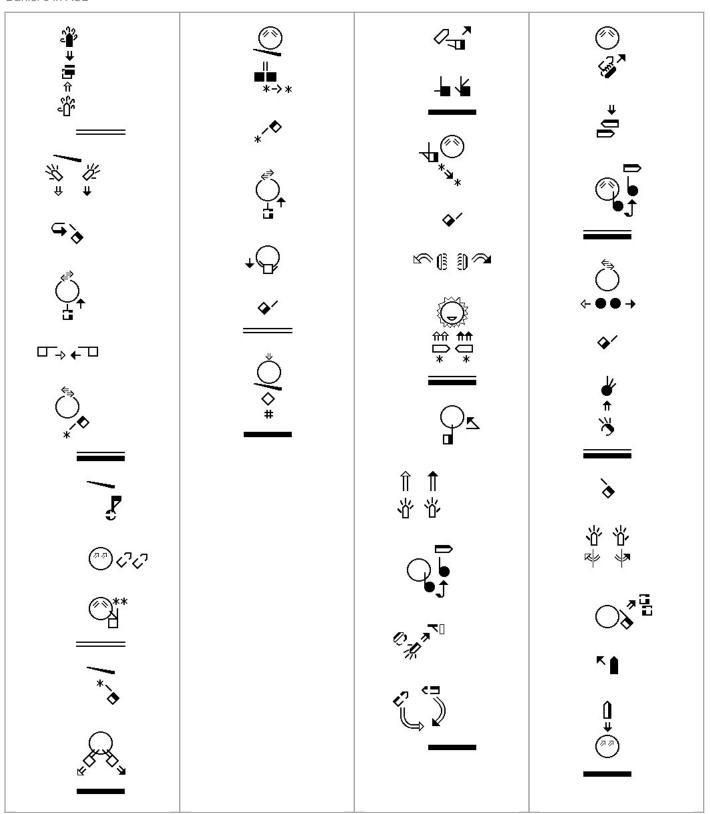
NLT



Verse 18. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night fasting. He refused his usual entertainment and couldn't sleep at all that night. Verse 19. Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den. Verse 20. When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel,

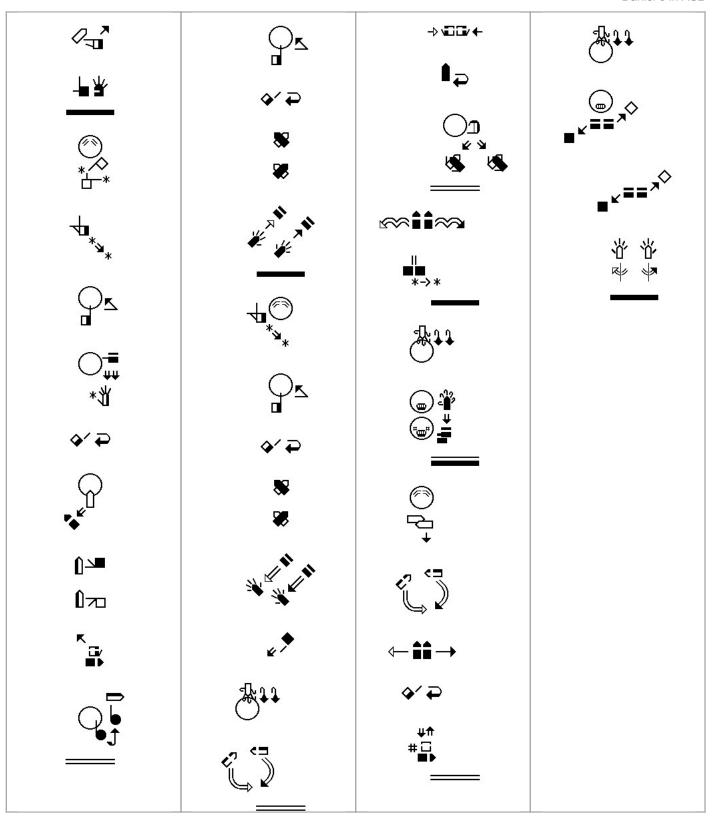


servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?" Verse 21. Daniel answered, "Long live the king! Verse 22. My God sent his angel to shut the lions' mouths

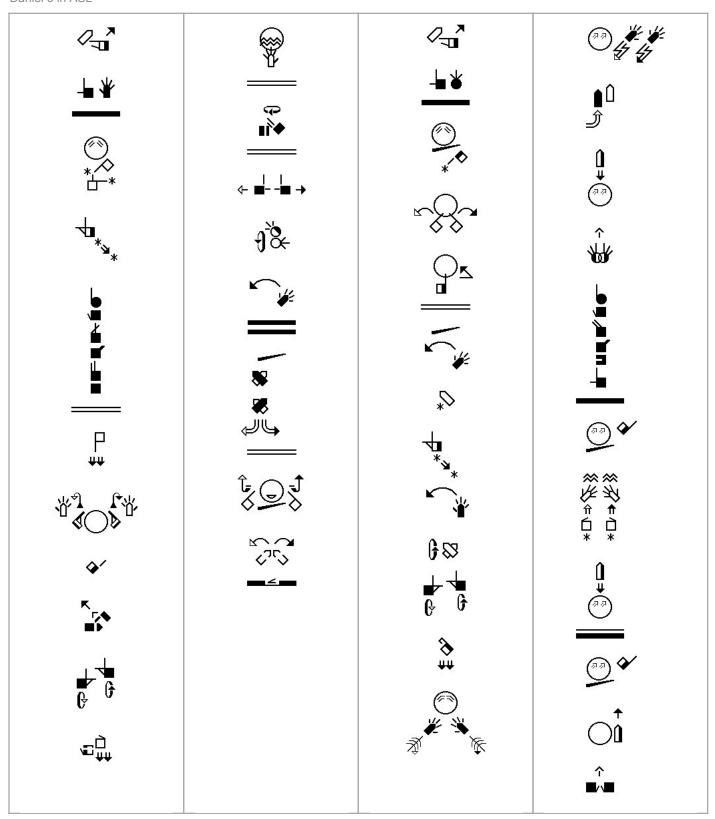


so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty." Verse 23. The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.

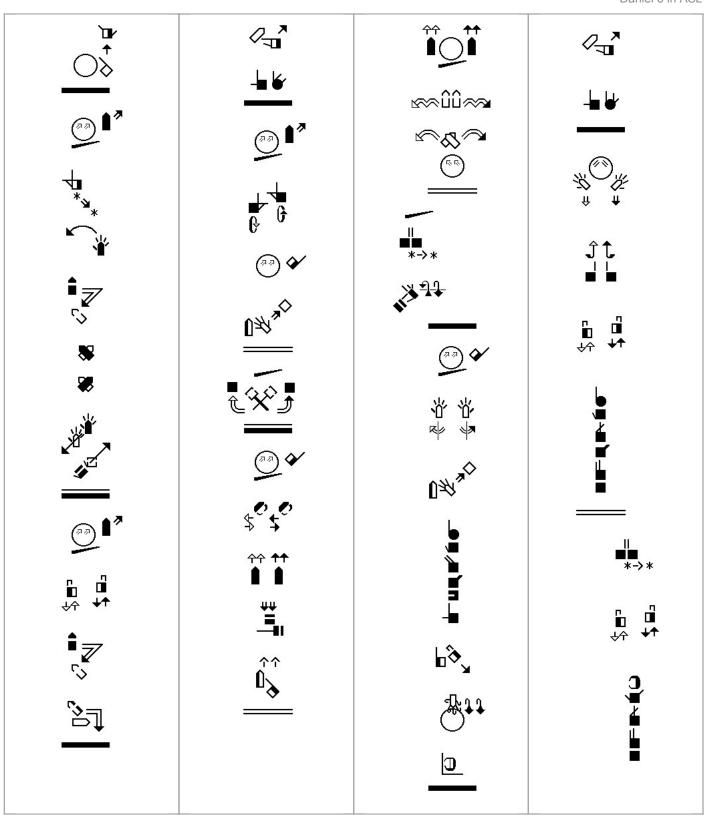
NLT



Verse 24. Then the king gave orders to arrest the men who had maliciously accused Daniel. He had them thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. The lions leaped on them and tore them apart before they even hit the floor of the den. NLT



Verse 25. Then King Darius sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world: "Peace and prosperity to you! Verse 26. "I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel. For he is the living God, and he will endure NLT

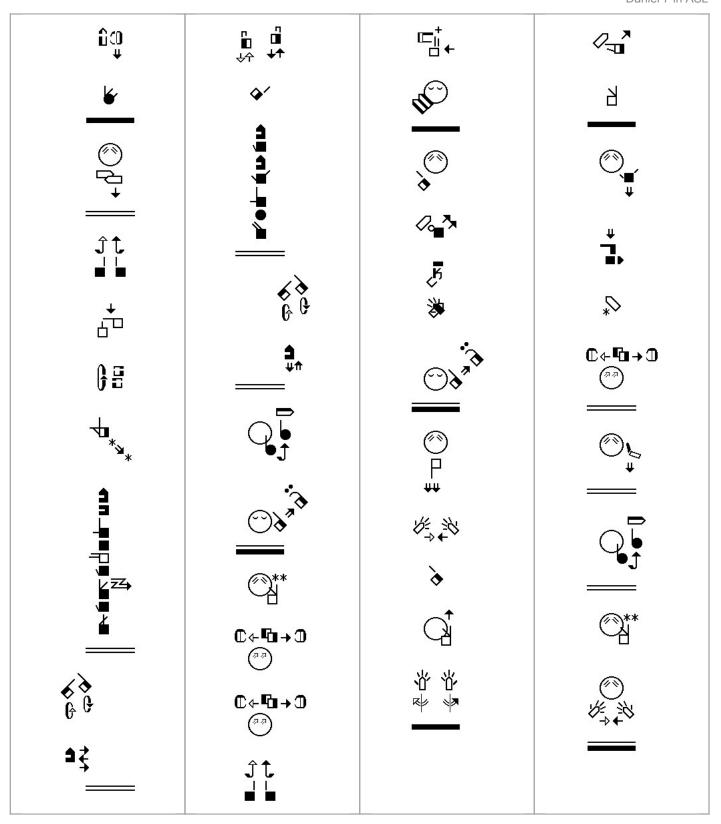


forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed, and his rule will never end. Verse 27. He rescues and saves his people; he performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions." Verse 28. So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus

NLT

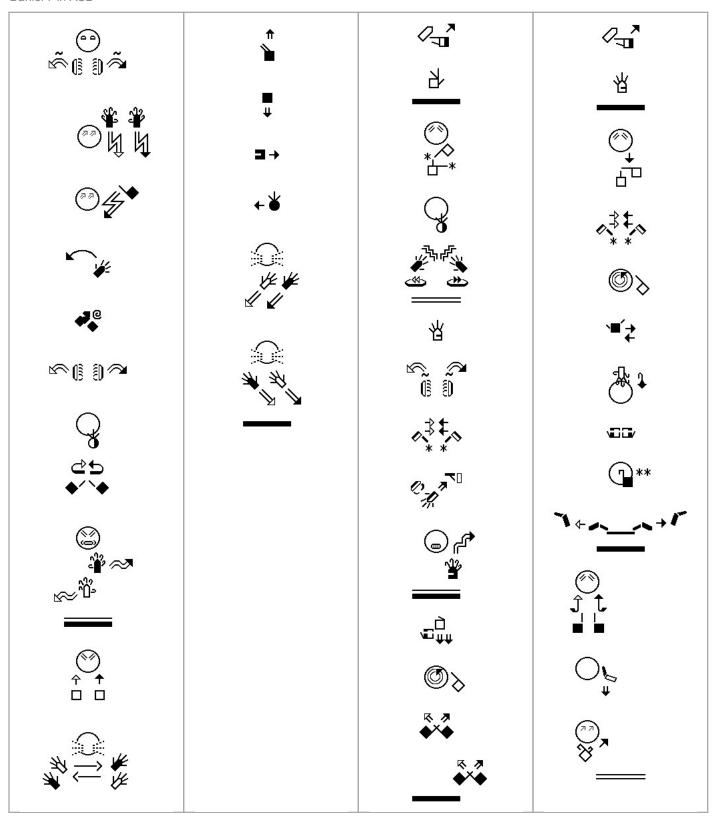
Daniel 6 in ASL

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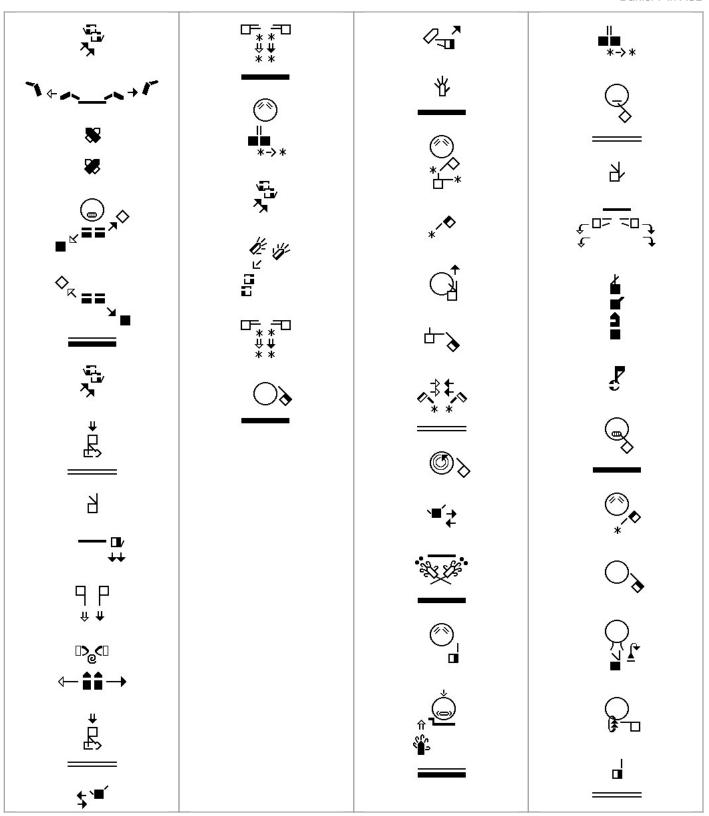


Chapter 7. Earlier, during the first year of King Belshazzar's reign in Babylon, Daniel had a dream and saw visions as he lay in his bed. He wrote down the dream, and this is what he saw. Verse 2. In my vision that night, I, Daniel, saw

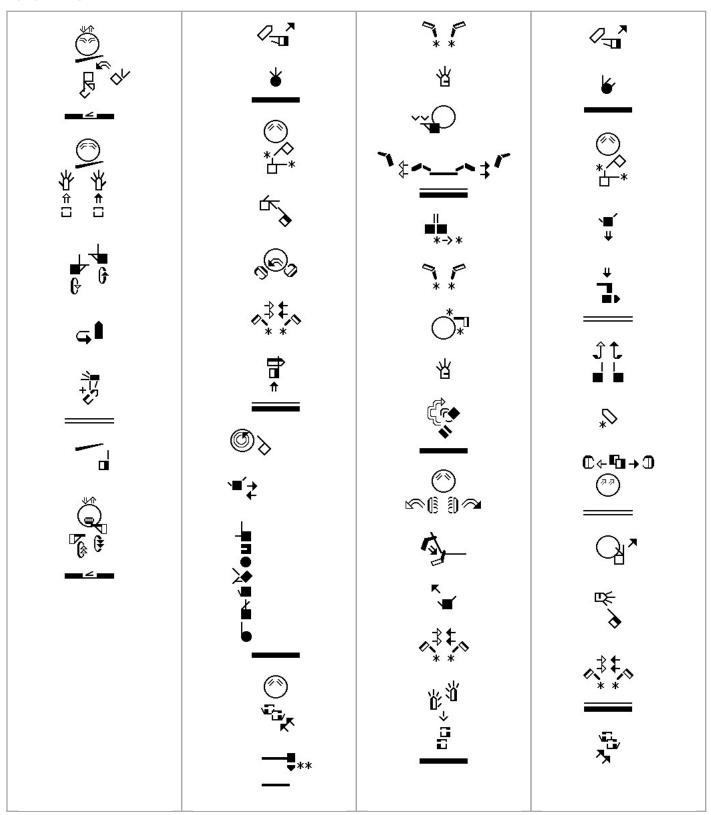
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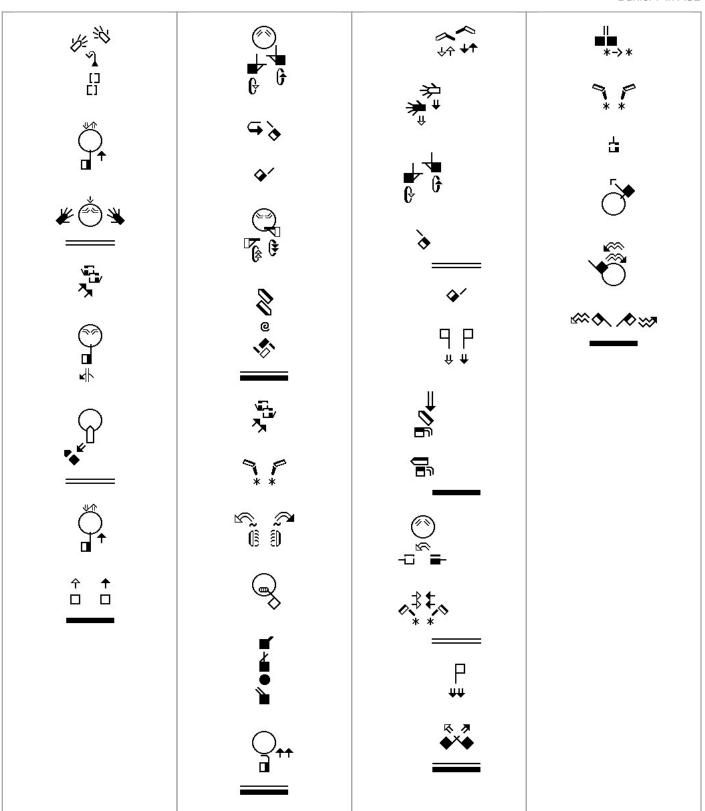
a great storm churning the surface of a great sea, with strong winds blowing from every direction. Verse 3. Then four huge beasts came up out of the water, each different from the others. Verse 4. The first beast was like a lion with eagles' wings. As I watched, NLT



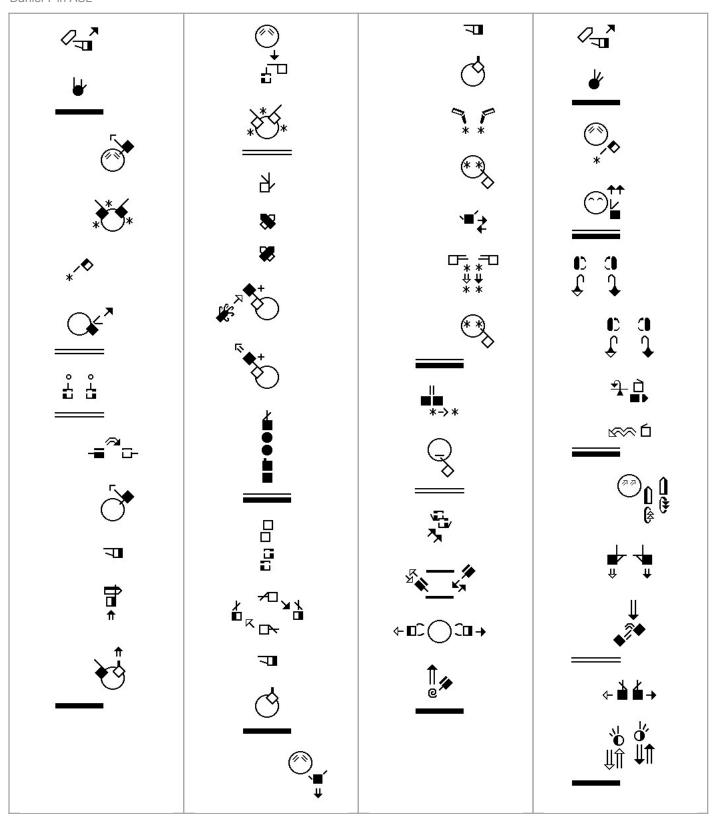
its wings were pulled off, and it was left standing with its two hind feet on the ground, like a human being. And it was given a human mind. Verse 5. Then I saw a second beast, and it looked like a bear. It was rearing up on one side, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And I heard a voice saying to it,



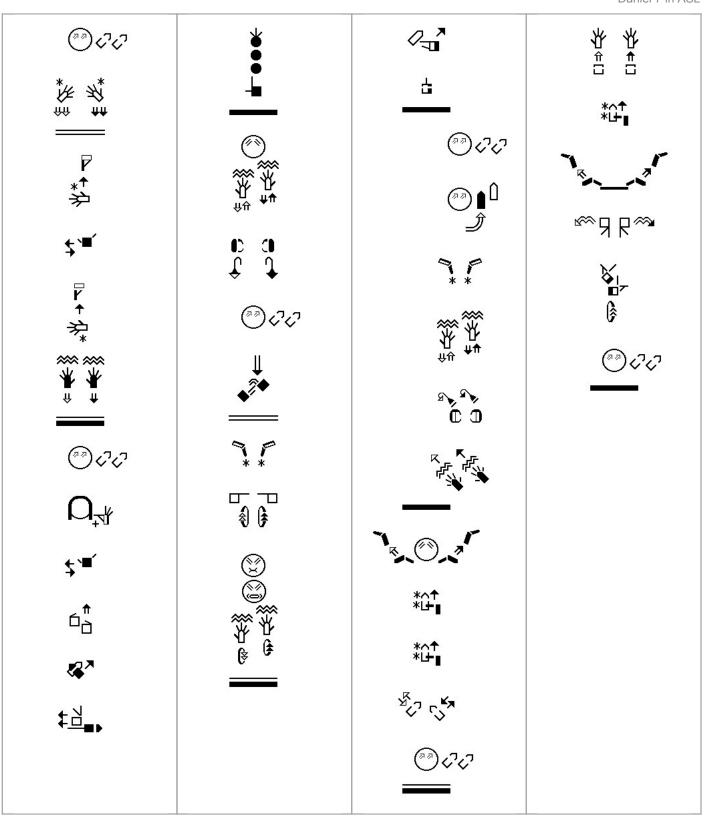
"Get up! Devour the flesh of many people!" Verse 6. Then the third of these strange beasts appeared, and it looked like a leopard. It had four bird's wings on its back, and it had four heads. Great authority was given to this beast. Verse 7. Then in my vision that night, I saw a fourth beast -- NLT



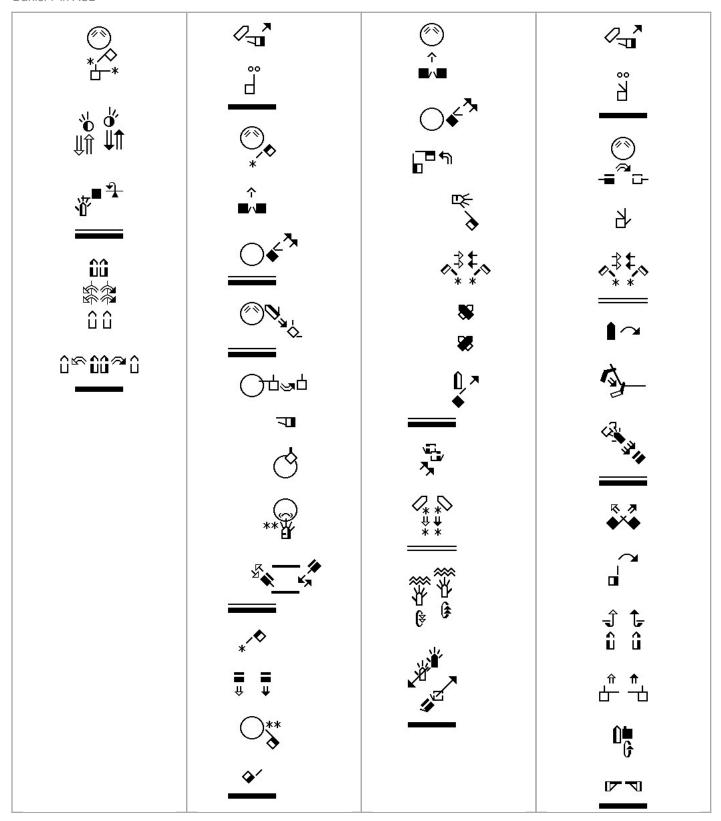
terrifying, dreadful, and very strong. It devoured and crushed its victims with huge iron teeth and trampled their remains beneath its feet. It was different from any of the other beasts, and it had ten horns.



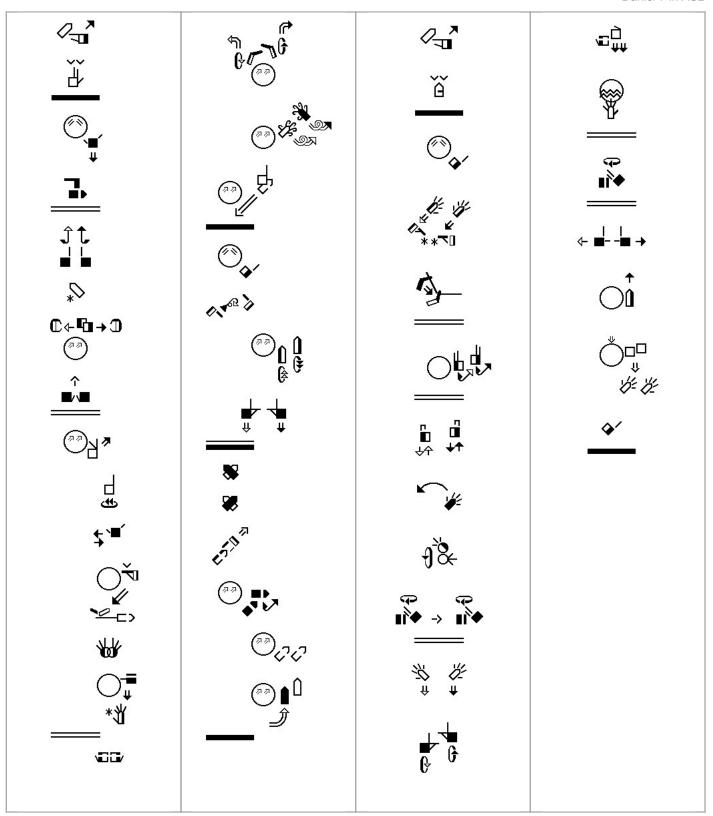
Verse 8. As I was looking at the horns, suddenly another small horn appeared among them. Three of the first horns were torn out by the roots to make room for it. This little horn had eyes like human eyes and a mouth that was boasting arrogantly. Verse 9. I watched as thrones were put in place and the Ancient One sat down to judge.



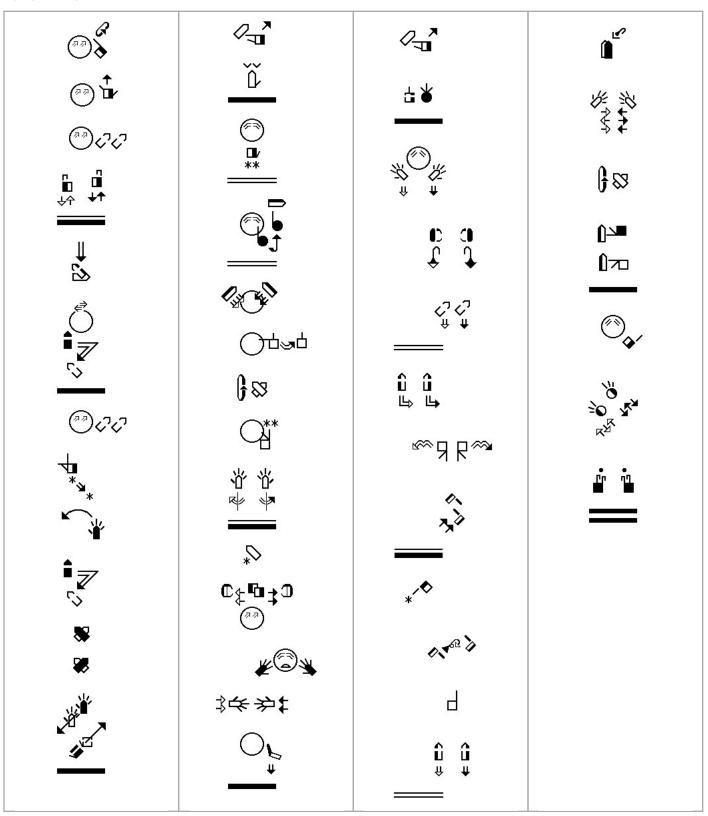
His clothing was as white as snow, his hair like purest wool. He sat on a fiery throne with wheels of blazing fire, Verse 10. and a river of fire was pouring out, flowing from his presence. Millions of angels ministered to him; many millions stood to attend him. NLT



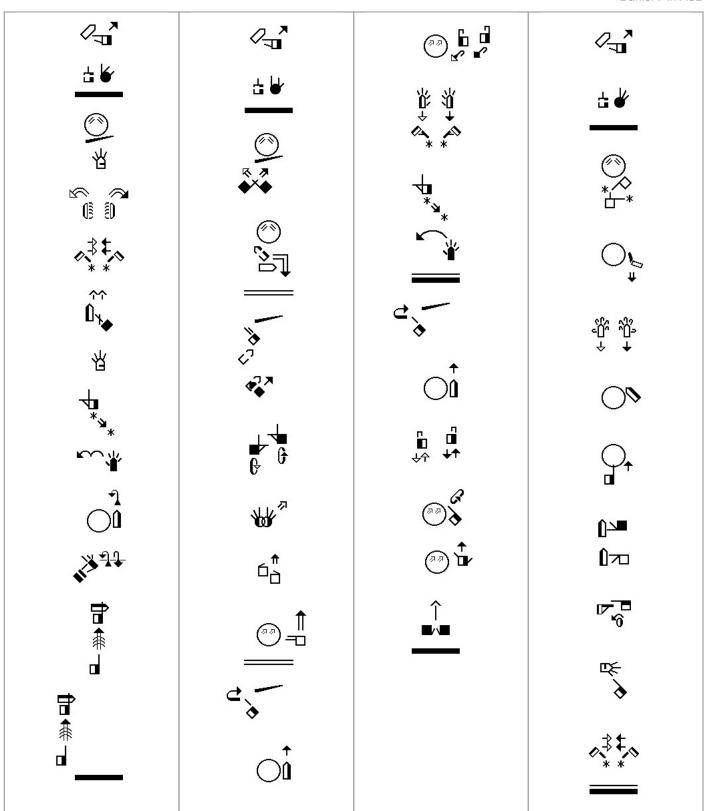
Then the court began its session, and the books were opened. Verse 11. I continued to watch because I could hear the little horn's boastful speech. I kept watching until the fourth beast was killed and its body was destroyed by fire. Verse 12. The other three beasts had their authority taken from them, but they were allowed to live a while longer.



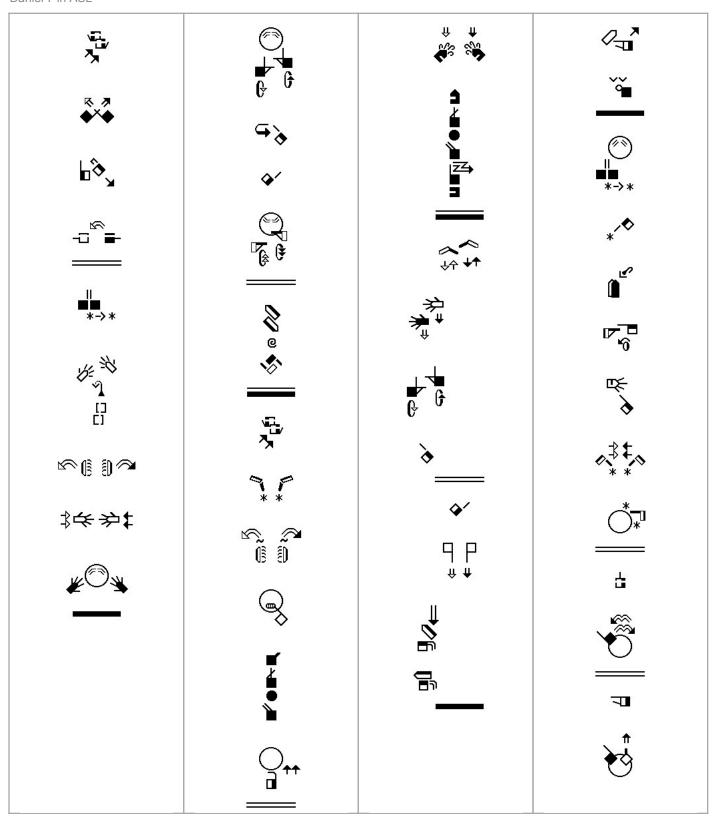
Verse 13. As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. Verse 14. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. NLT



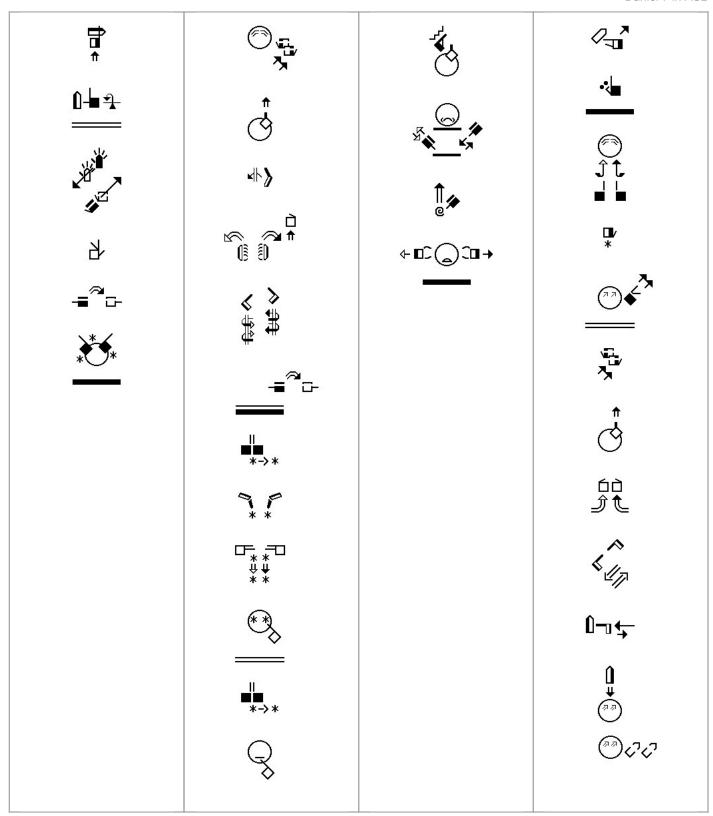
His rule is eternal -- it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed. Verse 15. I, Daniel, was troubled by all I had seen, and my visions terrified me. Verse 16. So I approached one of those standing beside the throne and asked him what it all meant. He explained it to me like this:



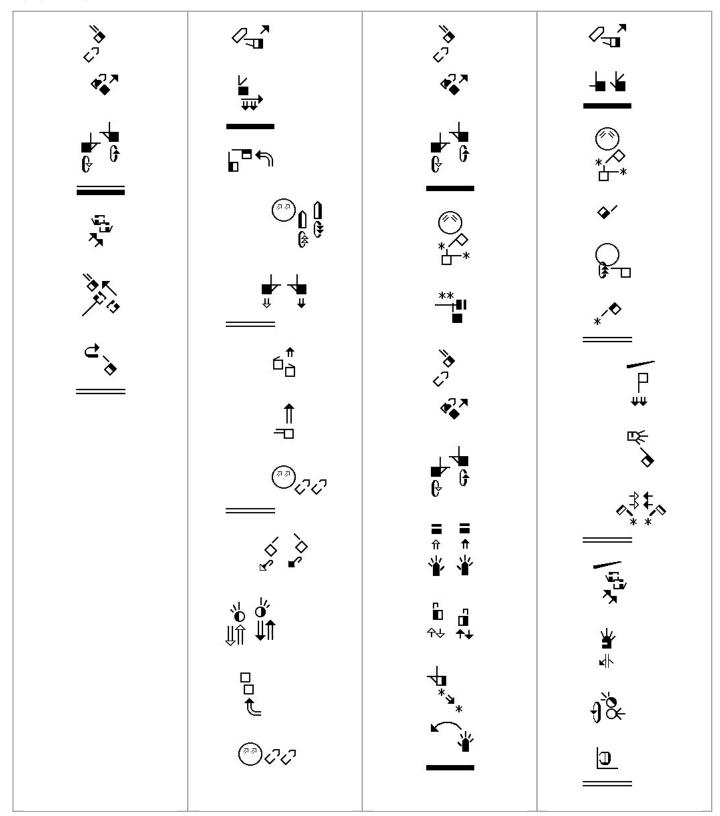
Verse 17. "These four huge beasts represent four kingdoms that will arise from the earth. Verse 18. But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever." Verse 19. Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast,



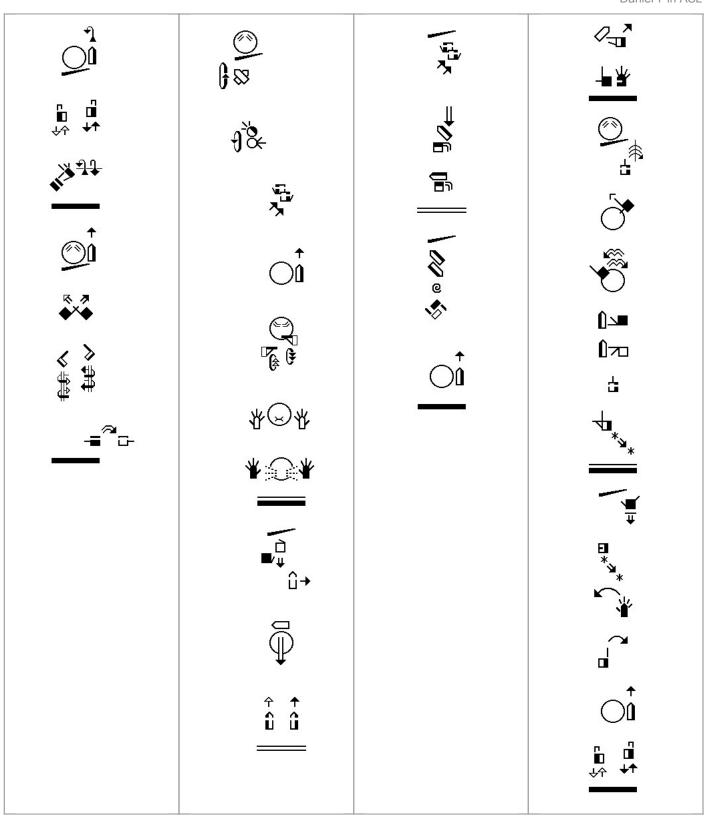
the one so different from the others and so terrifying. It had devoured and crushed its victims with iron teeth and bronze claws, trampling their remains beneath its feet. Verse 20. I also asked about the ten horns on the fourth beast's head and the little horn NLT



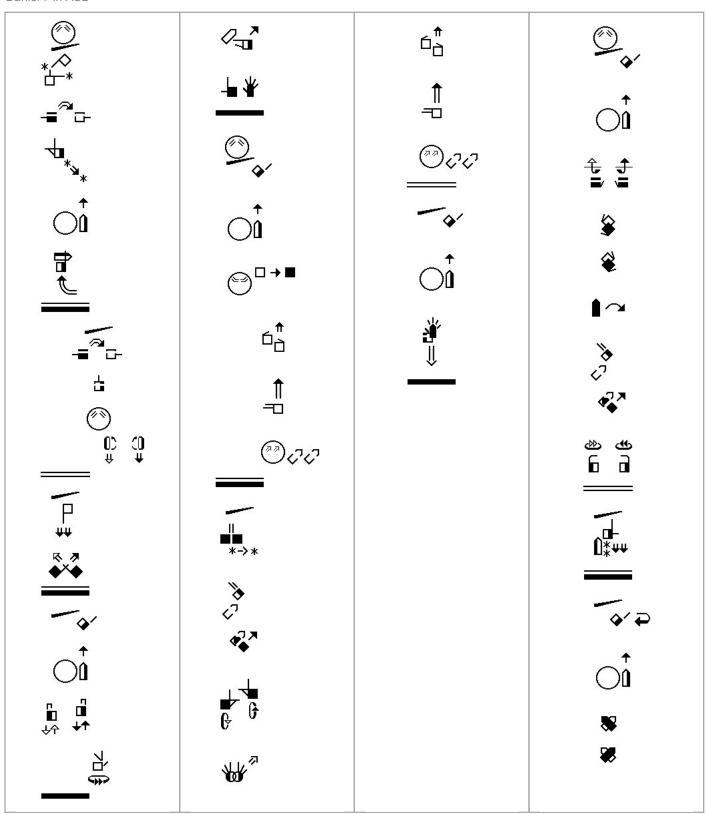
that came up afterward and destroyed three of the other horns. This horn had seemed greater than the others, and it had human eyes and a mouth that was boasting arrogantly. Verse 21. As I watched, this horn was waging war against God's NLT



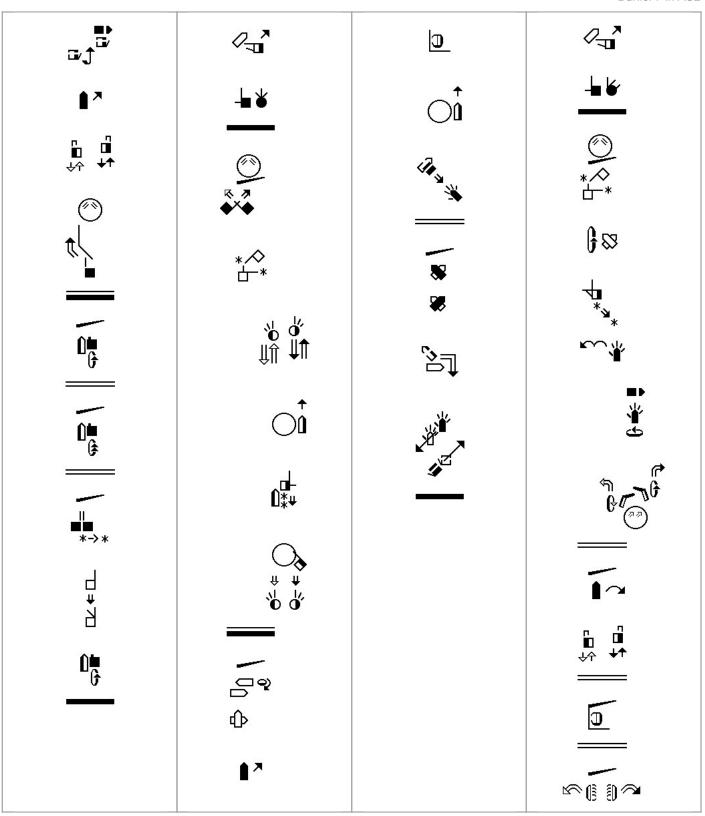
holy people and was defeating them, Verse 22. until the Ancient One -- the Most High -- came and judged in favor of his holy people. Then the time arrived for the holy people to take over the kingdom. Verse 23. Then he said to me, "This fourth beast is the fourth world power NLT



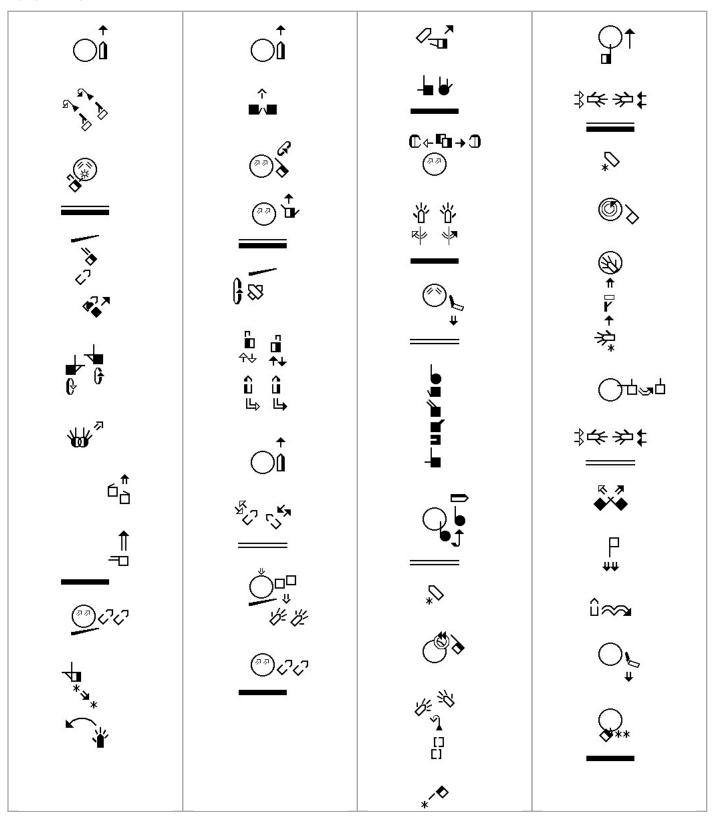
that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path. Verse 24. Its ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire.



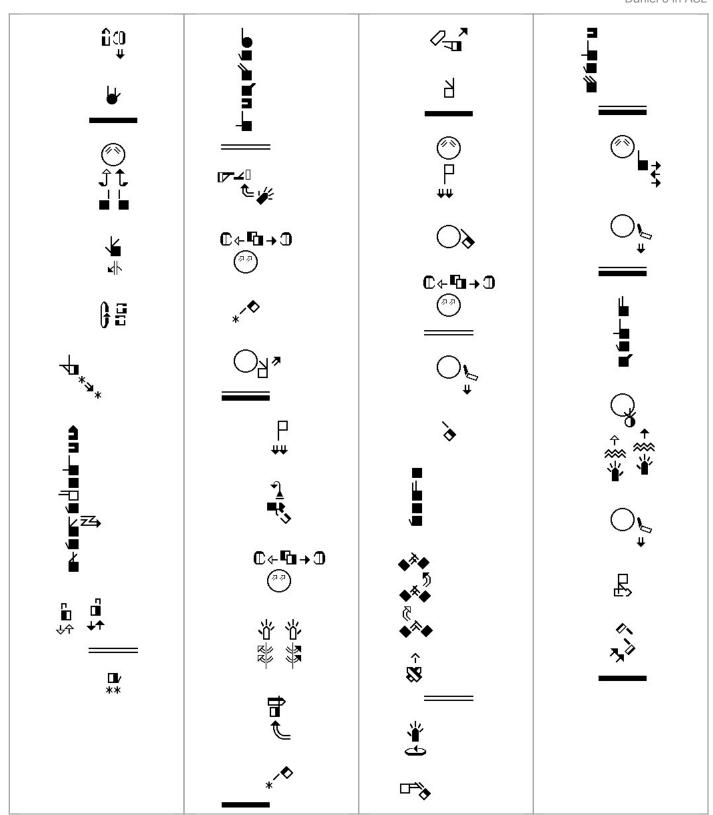
Then another king will arise, different from the other ten, who will subdue three of them. Verse 25. He will defy the Most High and oppress the holy people of the Most High. He will try to change their sacred festivals and laws, and they will be



placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time. Verse 26. "But then the court will pass judgment, and all his power will be taken away and completely destroyed. Verse 27. Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven NLT

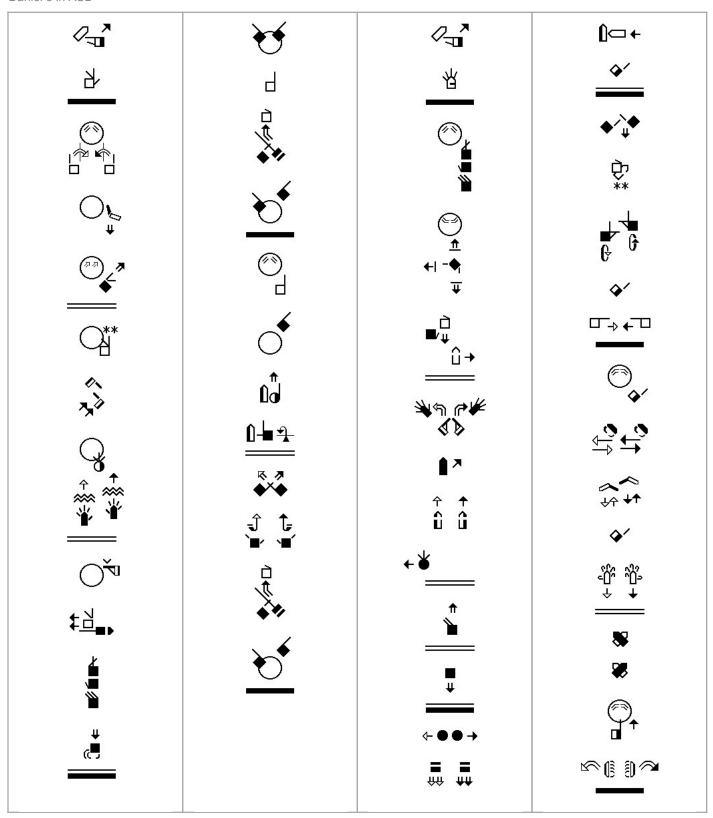


will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him." Verse 28. That was the end of the vision. I, Daniel, was terrified by my thoughts and my face was pale with fear, but I kept these things to myself. NLT

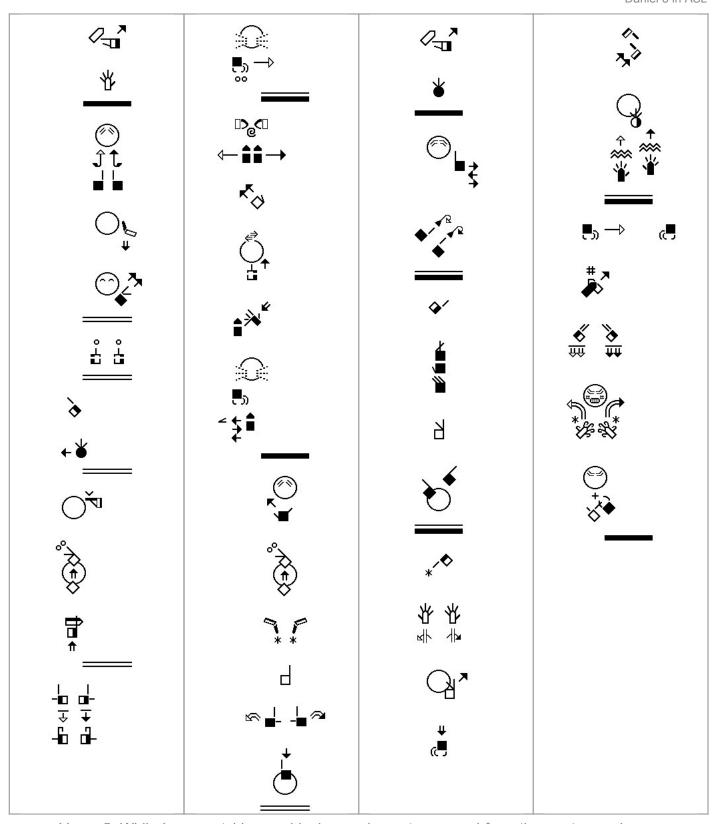


Chapter 8. During the third year of King Belshazzar's reign, I, Daniel, saw another vision, following the one that had already appeared to me. Verse 2. In this vision I was at the fortress of Susa, in the province of Elam, standing beside the Ulai River.

NLT

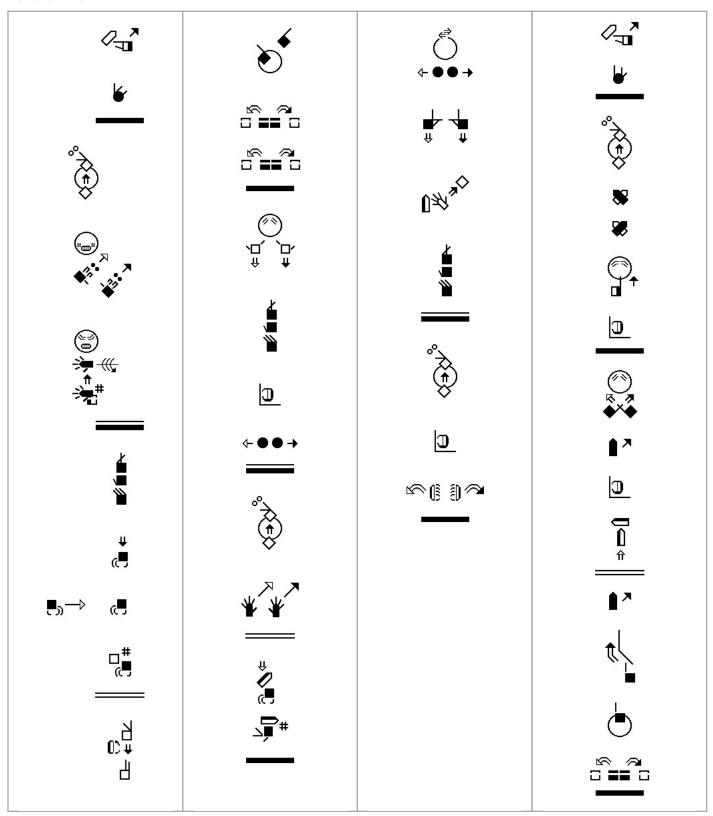


Verse 3. As I looked up, I saw a ram with two long horns standing beside the river. One of the horns was longer than the other, even though it had grown later than the other one. Verse 4. The ram butted everything out of his way to the west, to the north, and to the south, and no one could stand against him or help his victims. He did as he pleased and became very great.



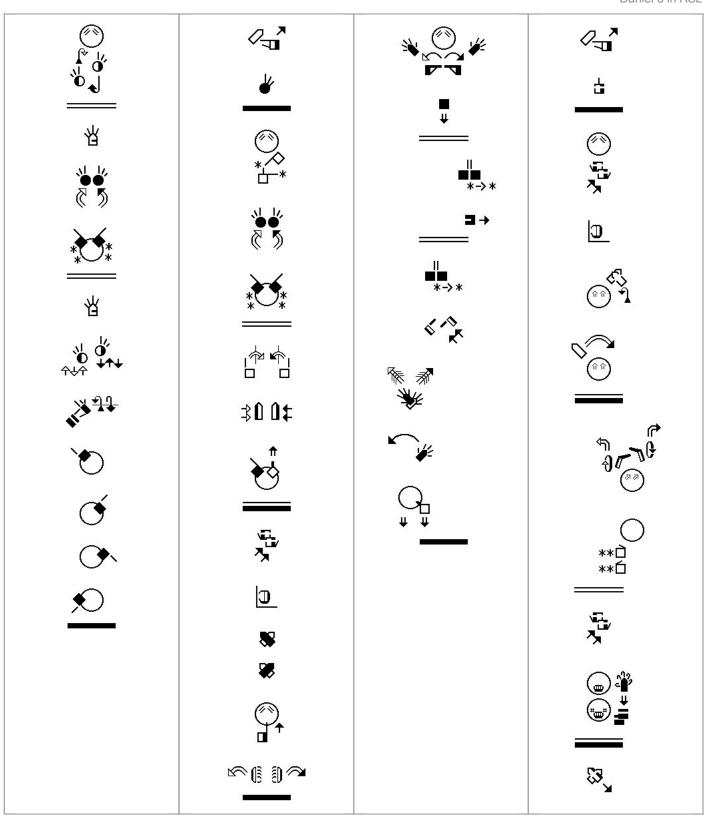
Verse 5. While I was watching, suddenly a male goat appeared from the west, crossing the land so swiftly that he didn't even touch the ground. This goat, which had one very large horn between its eyes, Verse 6. headed toward the two-horned ram that I had seen standing beside the river, rushing at him in a rage.

NLT

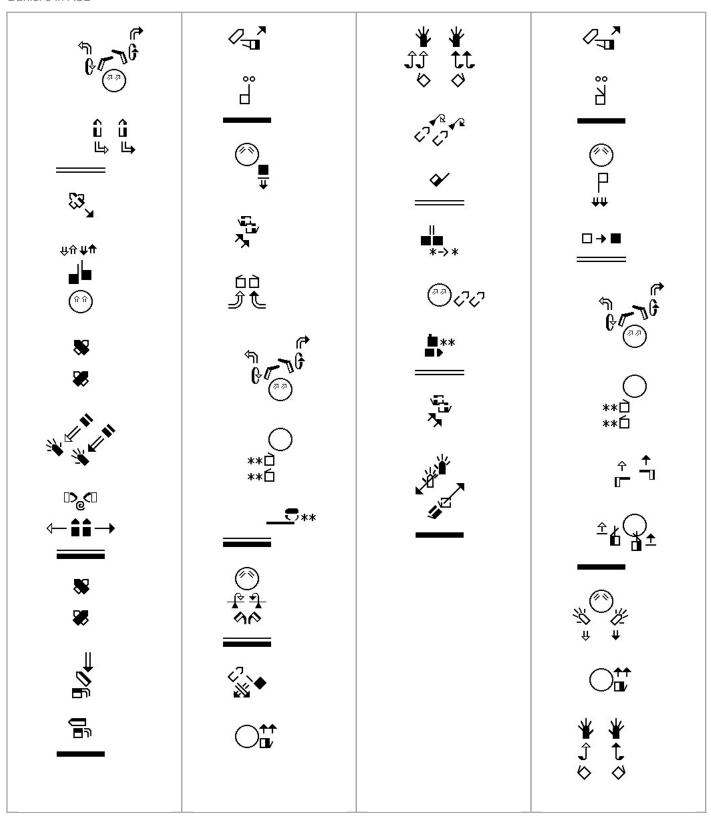


Verse 7. The goat charged furiously at the ram and struck him, breaking off both his horns. Now the ram was helpless, and the goat knocked him down and trampled him. No one could rescue the ram from the goat's power. Verse 8. The goat became very powerful. But at the height of his power, his large horn was broken off.

NLT

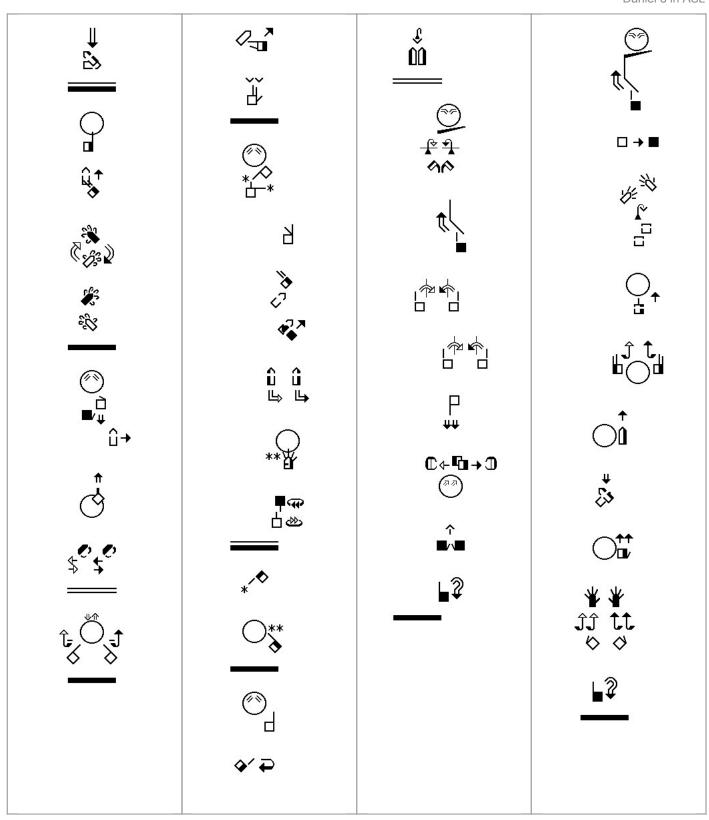


In the large horn's place grew four prominent horns pointing in the four directions of the earth. Verse 9. Then from one of the prominent horns came a small horn whose power grew very great. It extended toward the south and the east and toward the glorious land of Israel. Verse 10. Its power reached to the heavens, where it attacked the heavenly army,

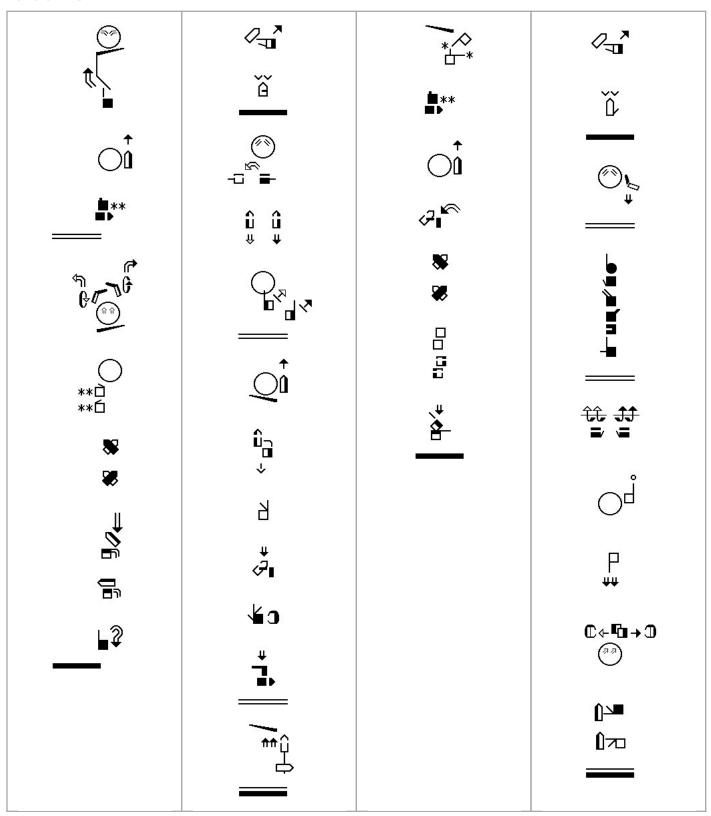


throwing some of the heavenly beings and some of the stars to the ground and trampling them. Verse 11. It even challenged the Commander of heaven's army by canceling the daily sacrifices offered to him and by destroying his Temple. Verse 12. The army of heaven was restrained from responding to this rebellion. So the daily sacrifice

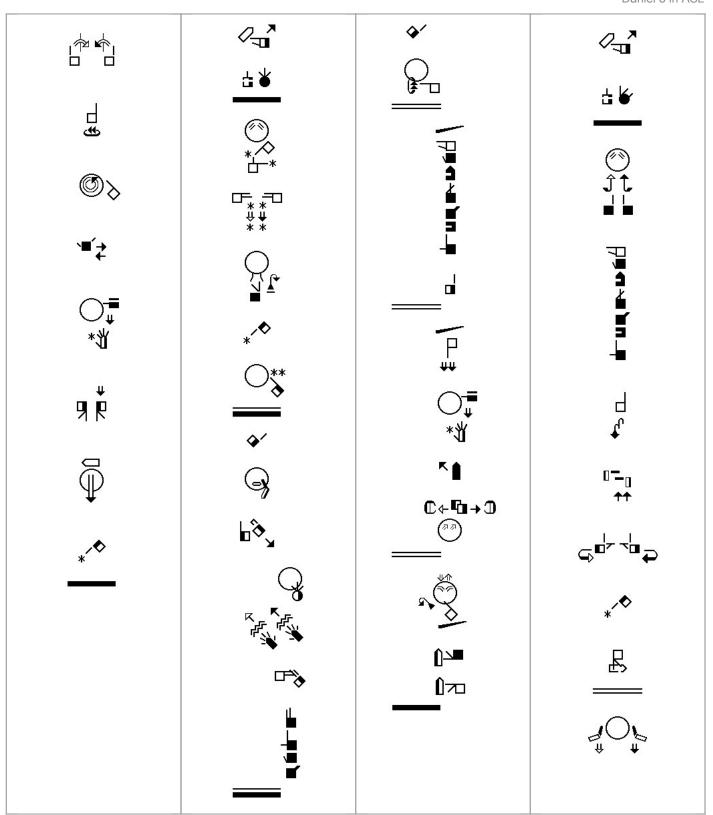
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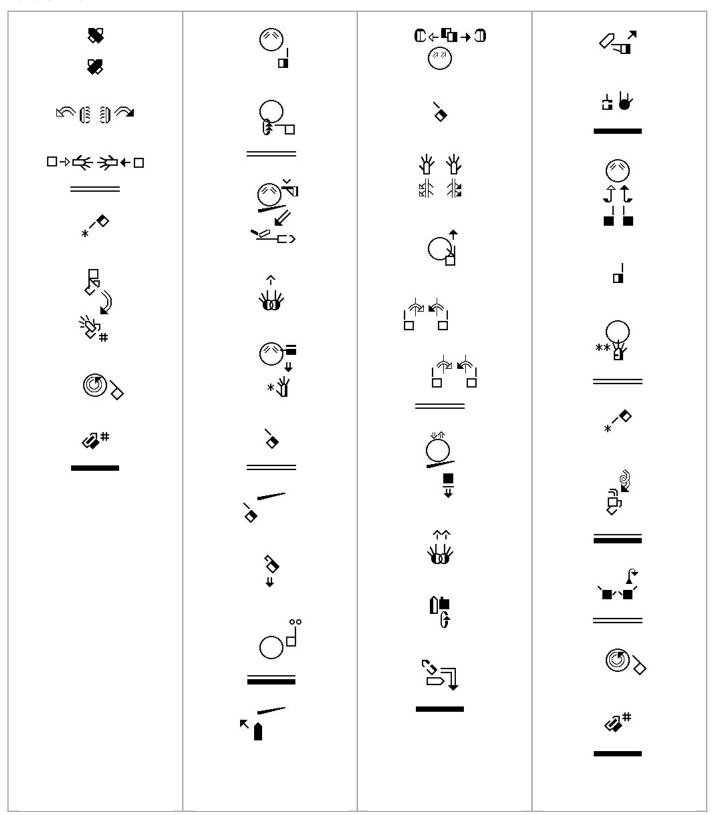
was halted, and truth was overthrown. The horn succeeded in everything it did. Verse 13. Then I heard two holy ones talking to each other. One of them asked, "How long will the events of this vision last? How long will the rebellion that causes desecration stop the daily sacrifices?



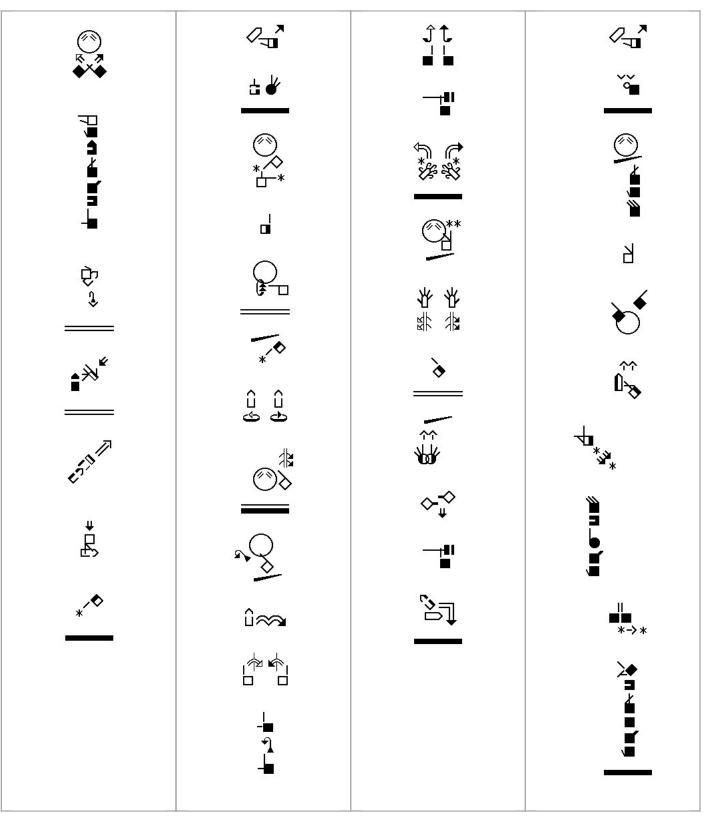
How long will the temple and heaven's army be trampled on?" Verse 14. The other replied, "It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the Temple will be made right again." Verse 15. As I, Daniel, was trying to understand the meaning of this vision, NLT



someone who looked like a man stood in front of me. Verse 16. And I heard a human voice calling out from the Ulai River, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of his vision." Verse 17. As Gabriel approached the place where I was standing, I NLT

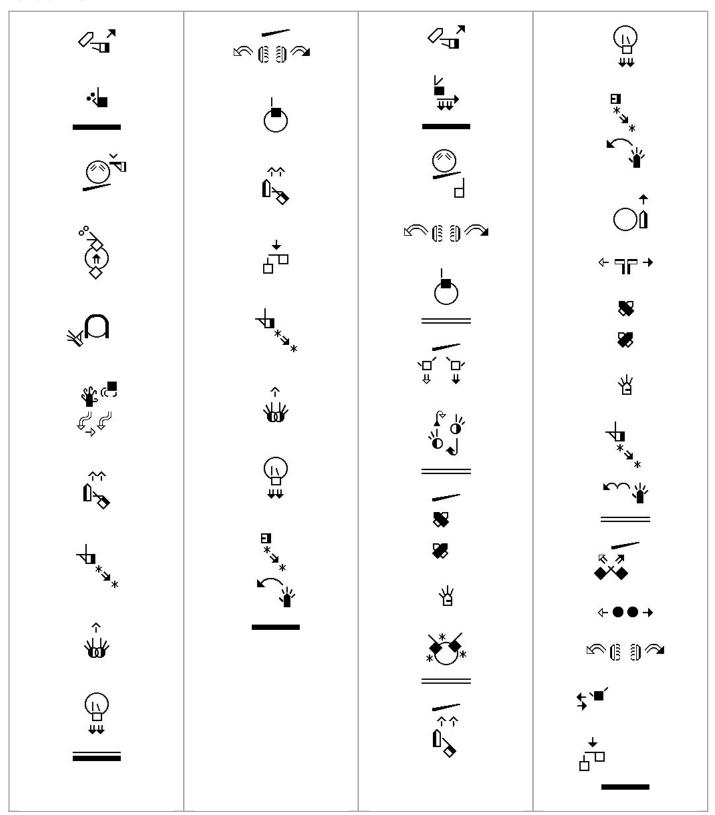


became so terrified that I fell with my face to the ground. "Son of man," he said, "you must understand that the events you have seen in your vision relate to the time of the end." Verse 18. While he was speaking, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground.

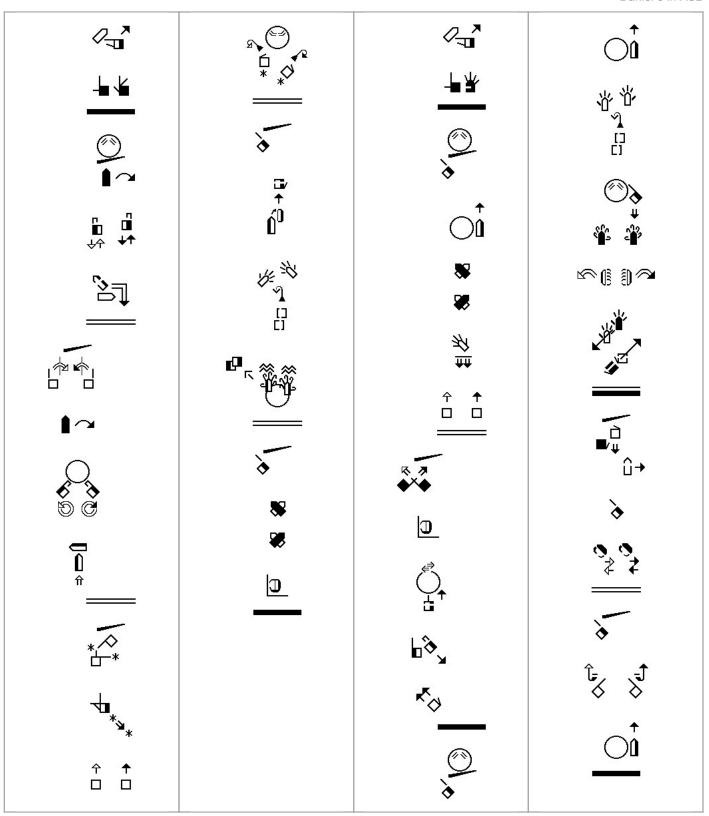


But Gabriel roused me with a touch and helped me to my feet. Verse 19. Then he said, "I am here to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath. What you have seen pertains to the very end of time. Verse 20. The two-horned ram represents the kings of Media and Persia.

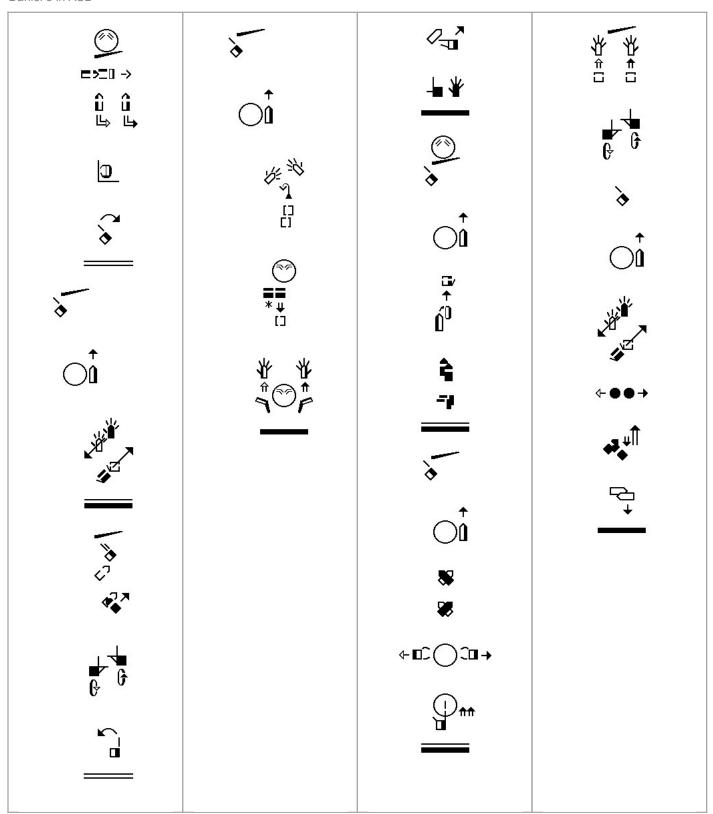
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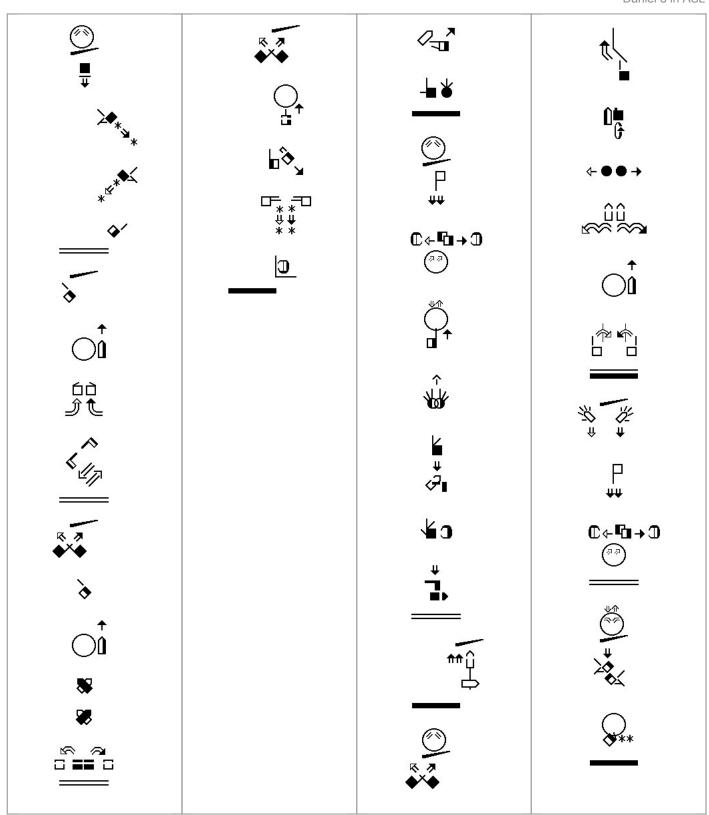
Verse 21. The shaggy male goat represents the king of Greece, and the large horn between his eyes represents the first king of the Greek Empire. Verse 22. The four prominent horns that replaced the one large horn show that the Greek Empire will break into four kingdoms, but nonw as great as the first.



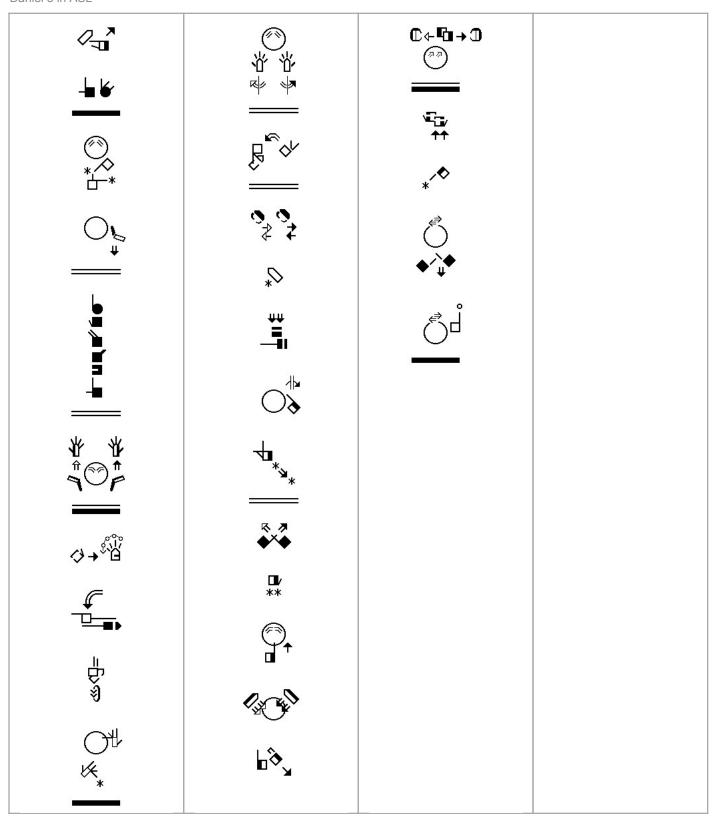
Verse 23. "At the end of their rule, when their sin is at its height, a fierce king, a master of intrigue, will rise to power. Verse 24. He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does.



He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. Verse 25. He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will destroy many without warning. NLT

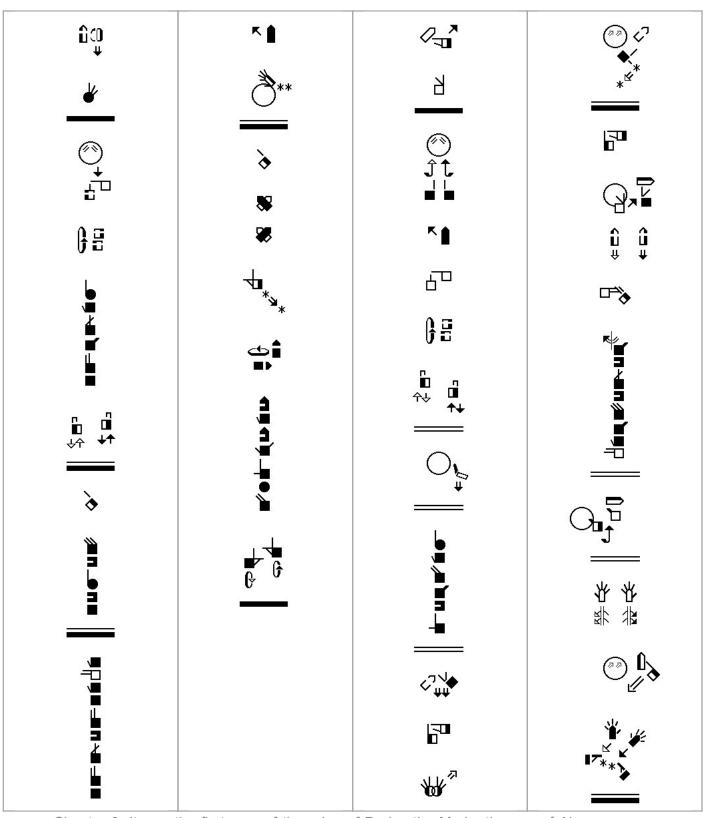


He will even take on the Prince of princes in battle, but he will be broken, though not by human power. Verse 26. "This vision about the 2,300 evenings and mornings is true. But none of these things will happen for a long time, so keep this vision a secret."

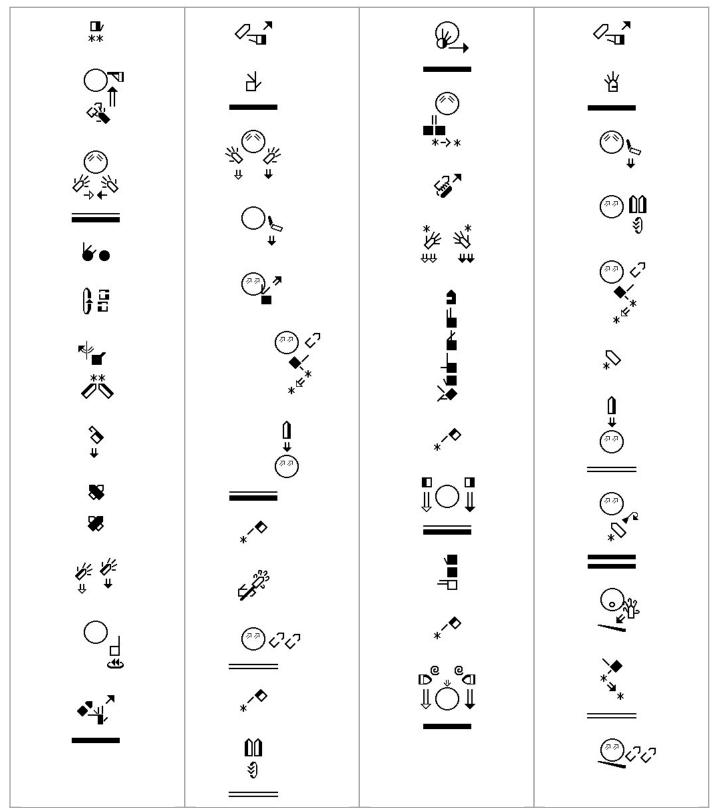


Verse 27. Then I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for several days. Afterward I got up and performed my duties for the king, but I was greatly troubled by the vision and could not understand it.

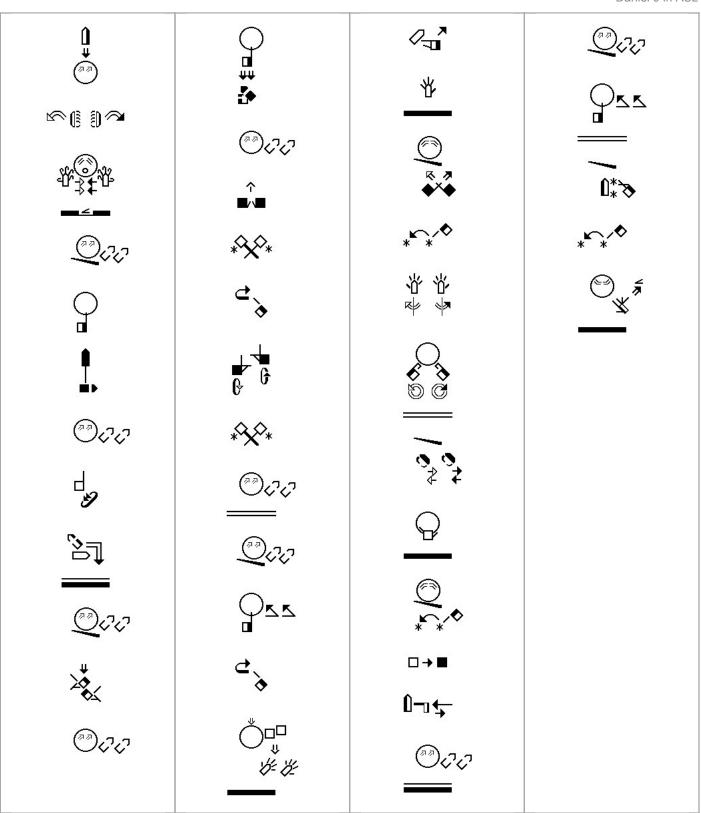
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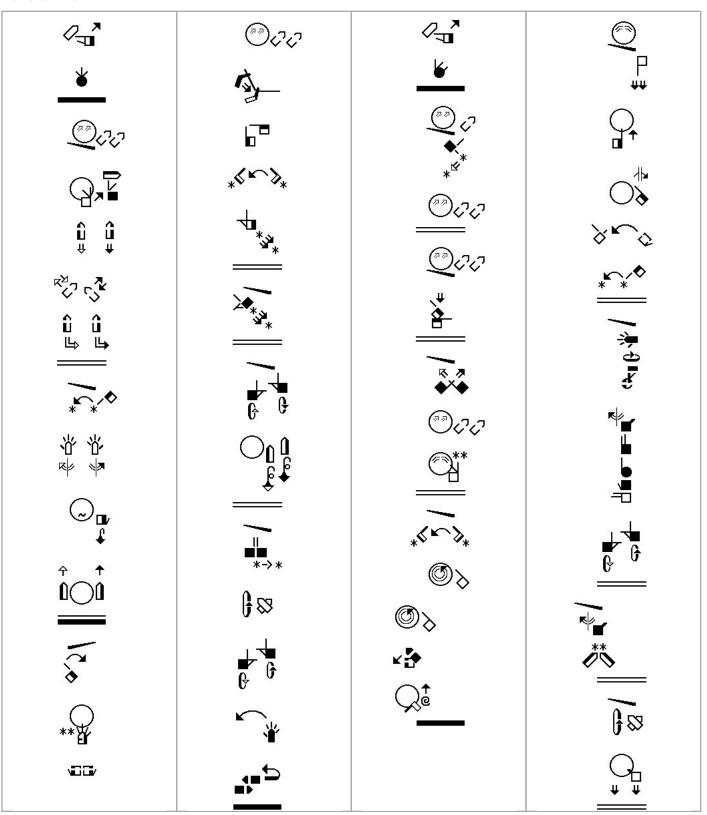
Chapter 9. It was the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede, the son of Ahasuerus, who became king of the Babylonians. Verse 2. During the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, learned from reading the word of the LORD, as revealed to Jeremiah the prophet, NLT



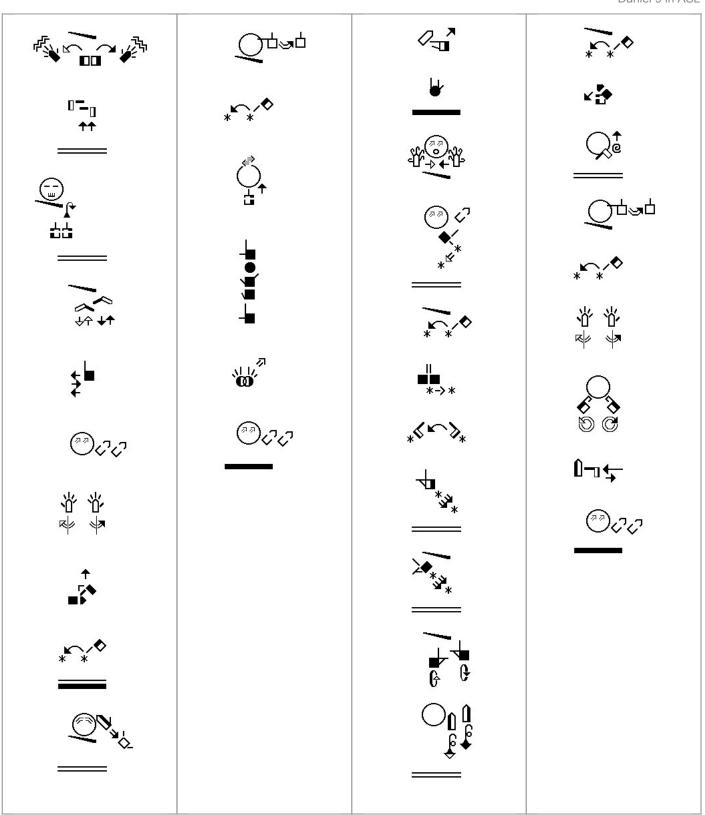
that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years. Verse 3. So I turned to the LORD God and pleaded with him in prayer and fasting. I also wore rough burlap and sprinkled myself with ashes. Verse 4. I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: "O Lord, you NLT



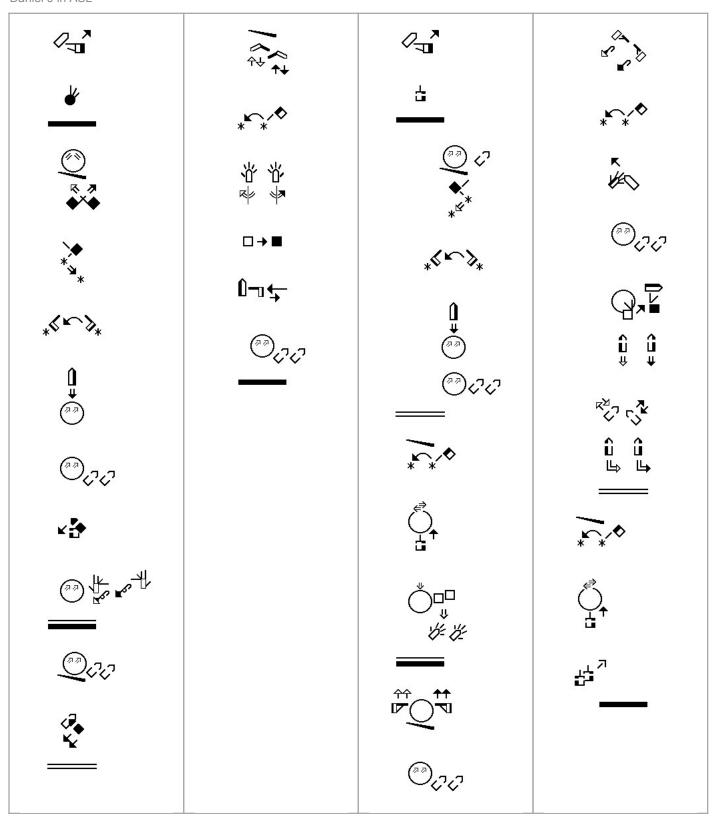
are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands. Verse 5. But we have sinned and done wrong. We have rebelled against you and scorned your commands and regulations.



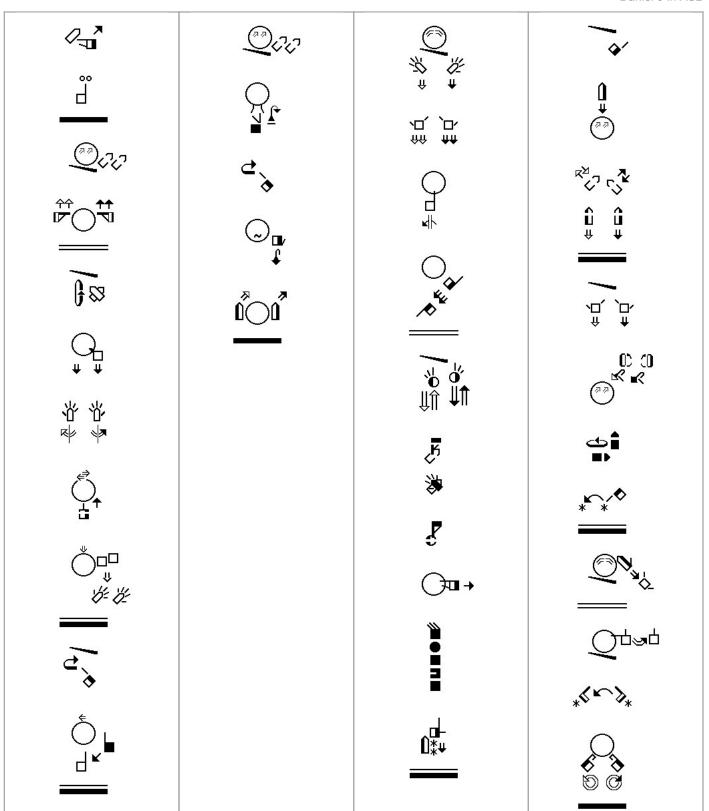
Verse 6. We have refused to listen to your servants the prophets, who spoke on your authority to our kings and princes and ancestors and to all the people of the land. Verse 7. "Lord, you are in the right; but as you see, our faces are covered with shame. This is true of all of us, including the people of Judah and Jerusalem and all Israel, NLT



scattered near and far, wherever you have driven us because of our disloyalty to you. Verse 8. O LORD, we and our kings, princes, and ancestors are covered with shame because we have sinned against you.

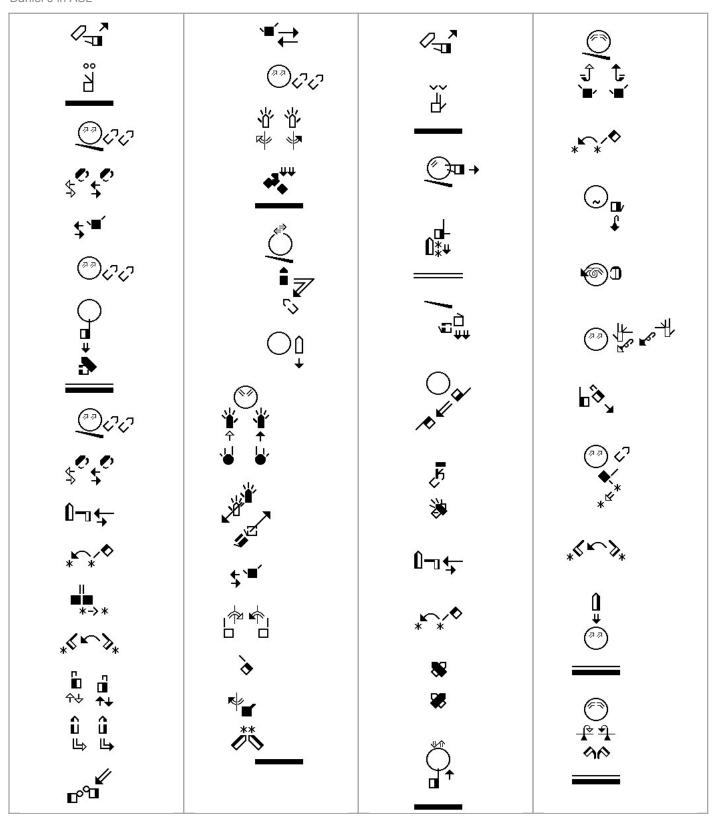


Verse 9. But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him. Verse 10. We have not obeyed the LORD our God, for we have not followed the instructions he gave us through his servants the prophets.



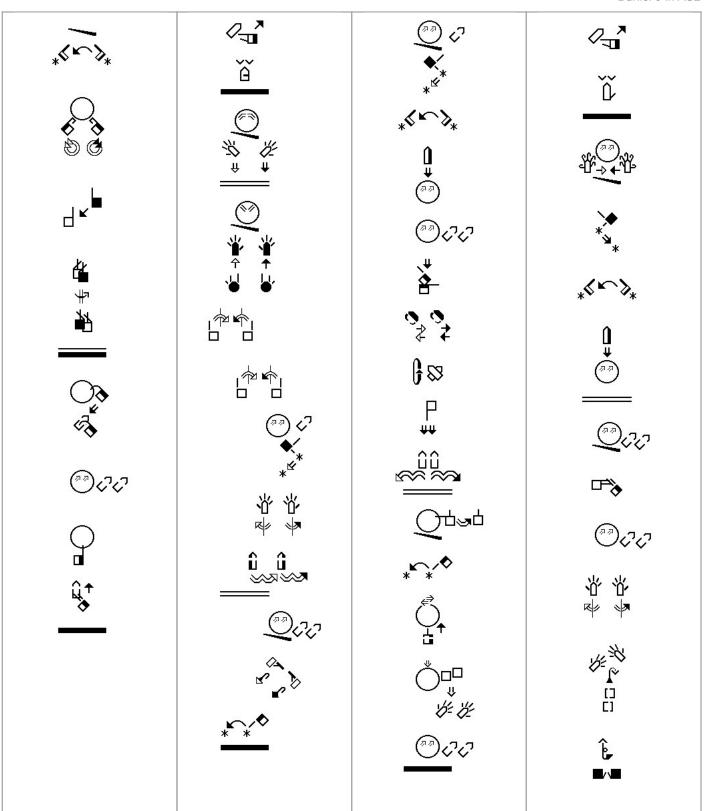
Verse 11. All Israel has disobeyed your instruction and turned away, refusing to listen to your voice. "So now the solemn curses and judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured down on us because of our sin.

NLT

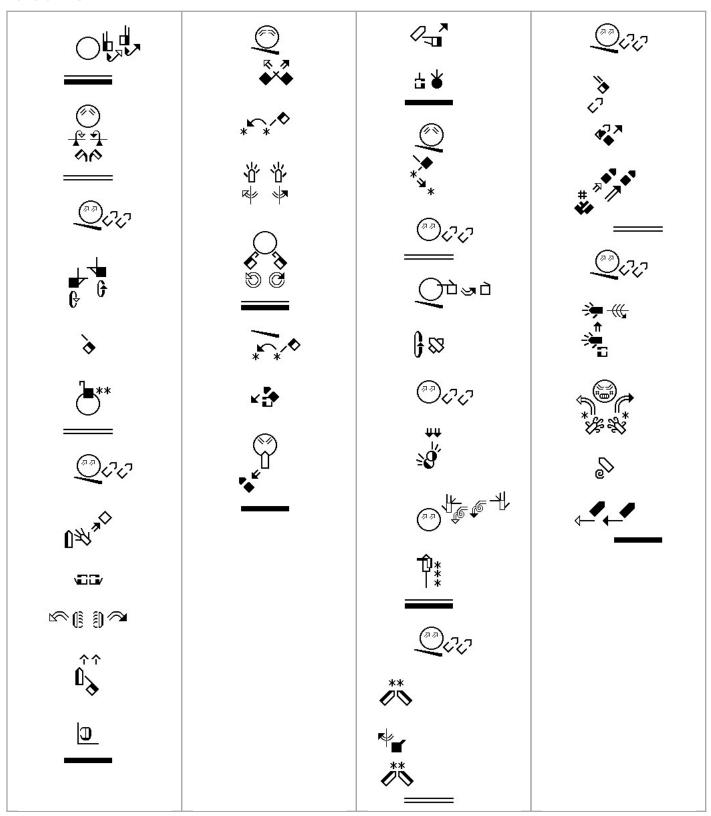


Verse 12. You have kept your word and done to us and our rulers exactly as you warned. Never has there been such a disaster as happened in Jerusalem. Verse 13. Every curse written against us in the Law of Moses has come true. Yet we have refused to seek mercy from the LORD our God

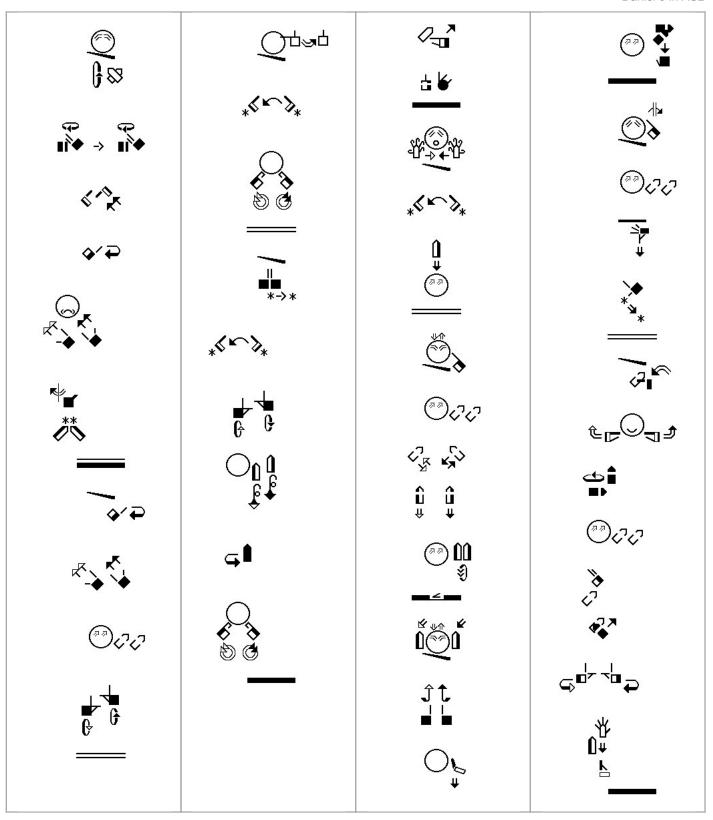
NLT



by turning from our sins and recognizing his truth. Verse 14. Therefore, the LORD has brought upon us the disaster he prepared. The LORD our God was right to do all of these things, for we did not obey him. Verse 15. "O Lord our God, you brought lasting NLT

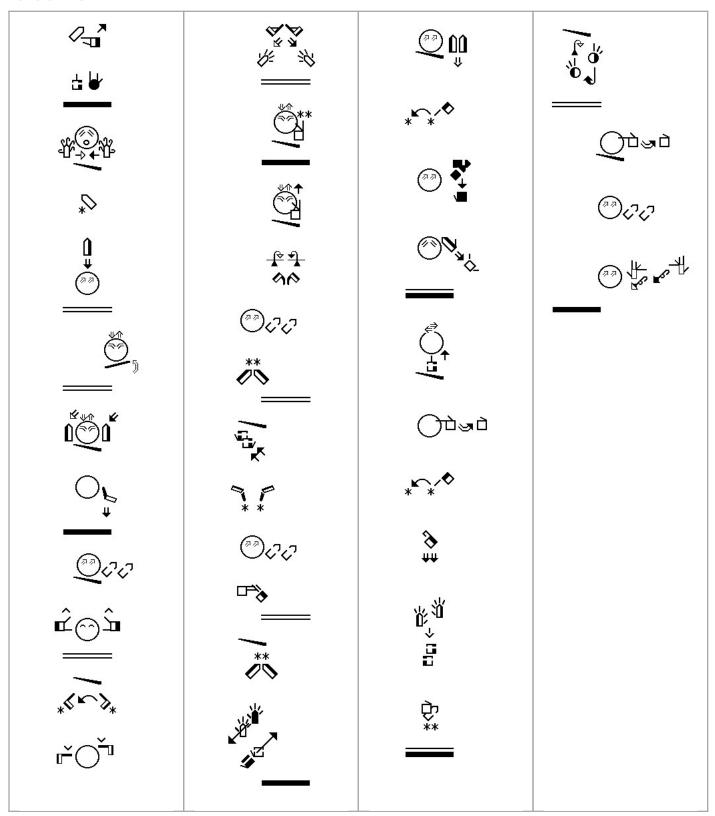


honor to your name by rescuing your people from Egypt in a great display of power. But we have sinned and are full of wickedness. Verse 16. In view of all your faithful mercies, Lord, please turn your furious anger away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain. NLT



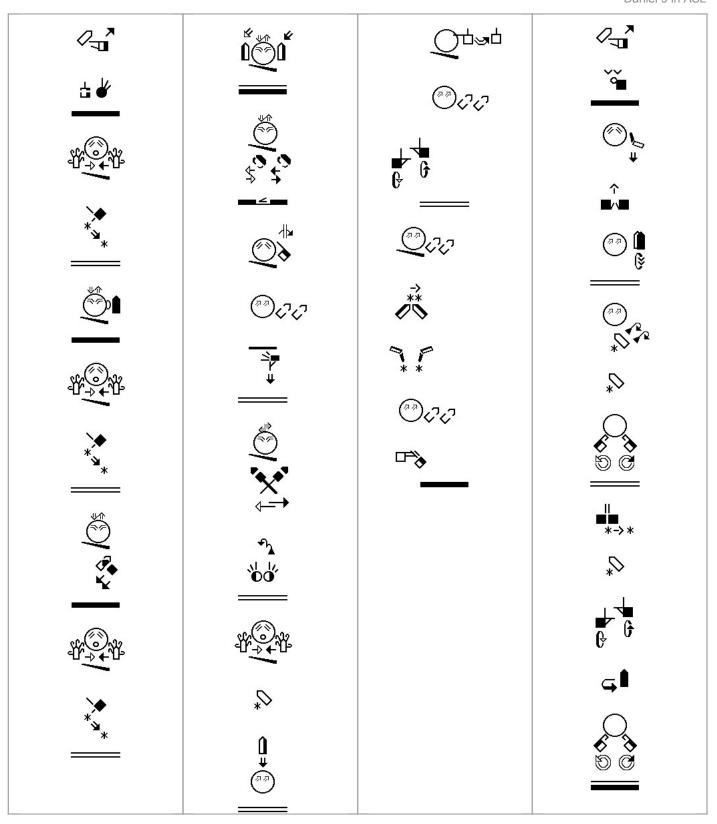
All the neighboring nations mock Jerusalem and your people because of our sins and the sins of our ancestors. Verse 17. "O our God, hear your servant's prayer! Listen as I plead. For your own sake, Lord, smile again on your desolate sanctuary.

NLT

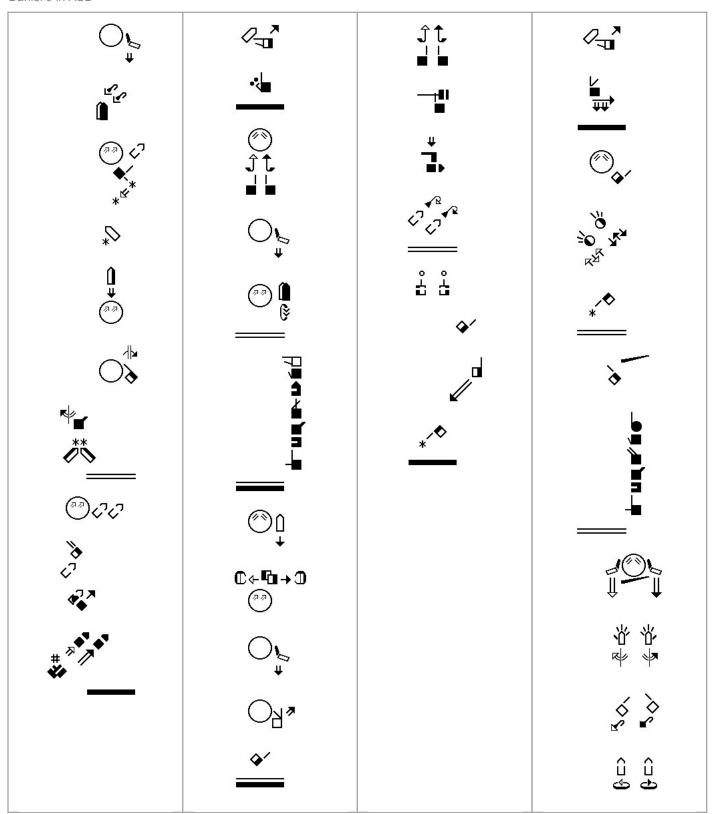


Verse 18. "O my God, lean down and listen to me. Open your eyes and see our despair. See how your city -- the city that bears your name -- lies in ruins. We make this plea, not because we deserve help, but because of your mercy.

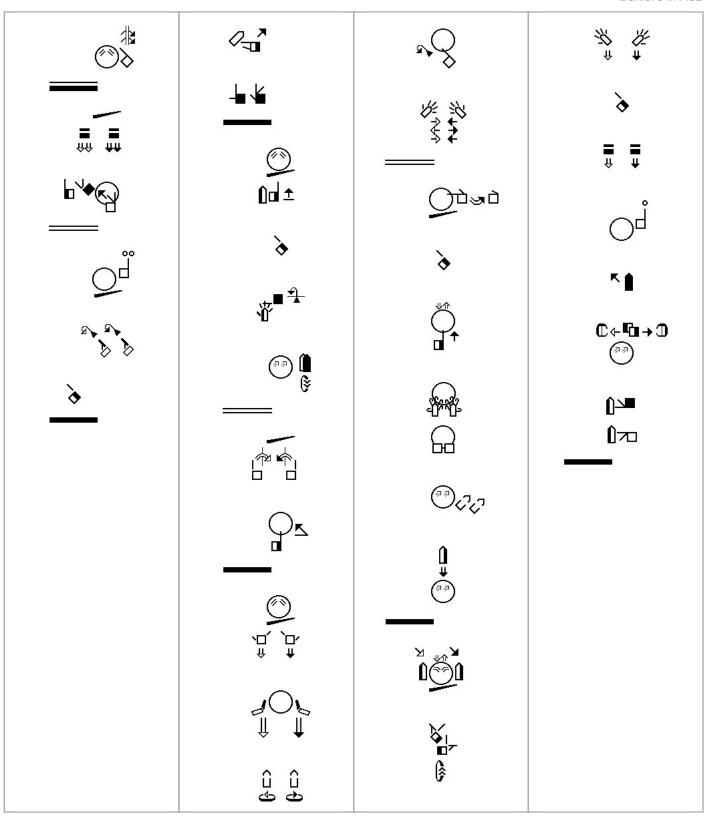
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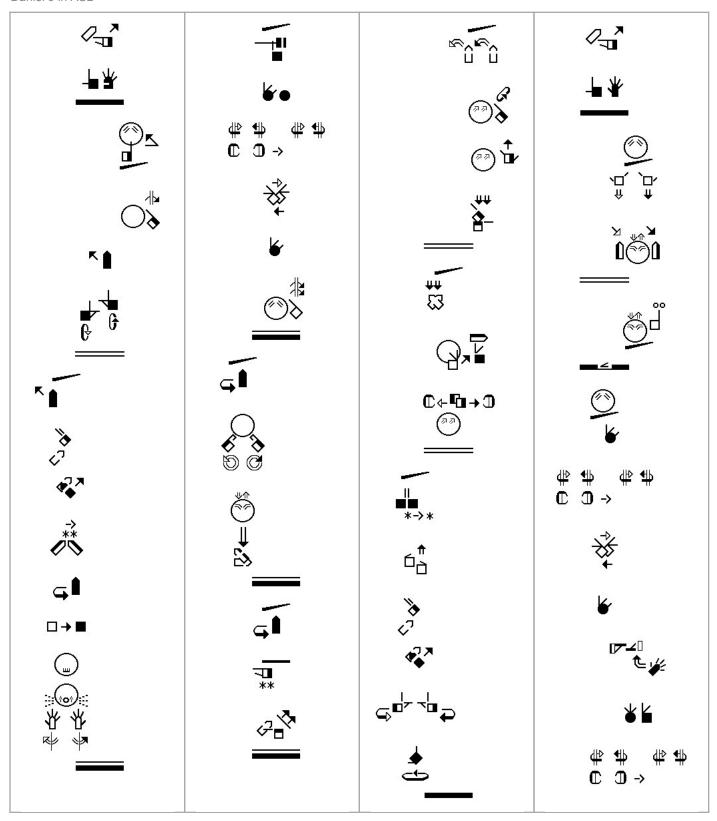
Verse 19. "O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act! For your own sake, do not delay, O my God, for your people and your city bear your name." Verse 20. I went on praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people,



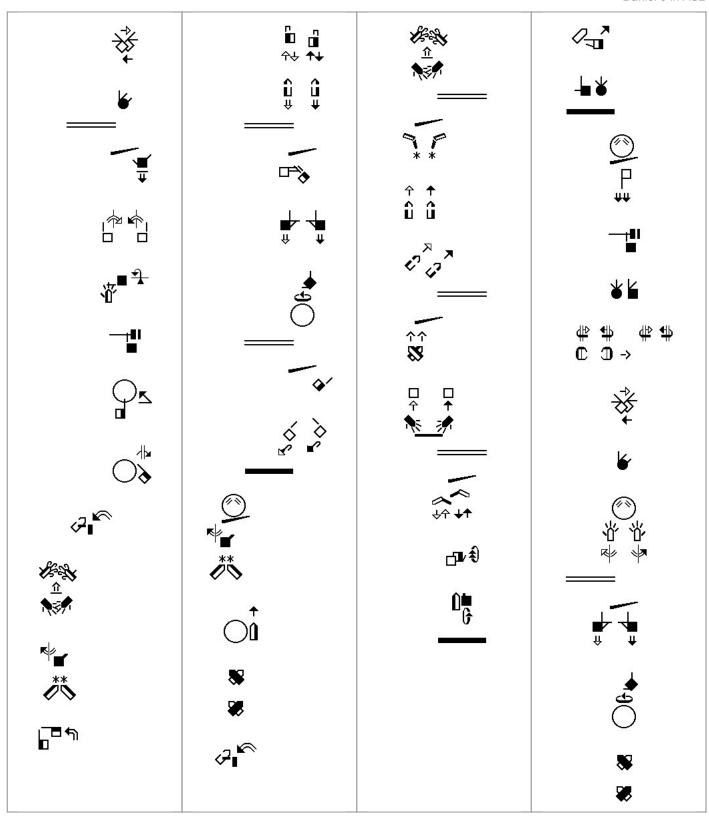
pleading with the LORD my God for Jerusalem, his holy mountain. Verse 21. As I was praying, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the earlier vision, came swiftly to me at the time of the evening sacrifice. Verse 22. He explained to me, "Daniel, I have come here"



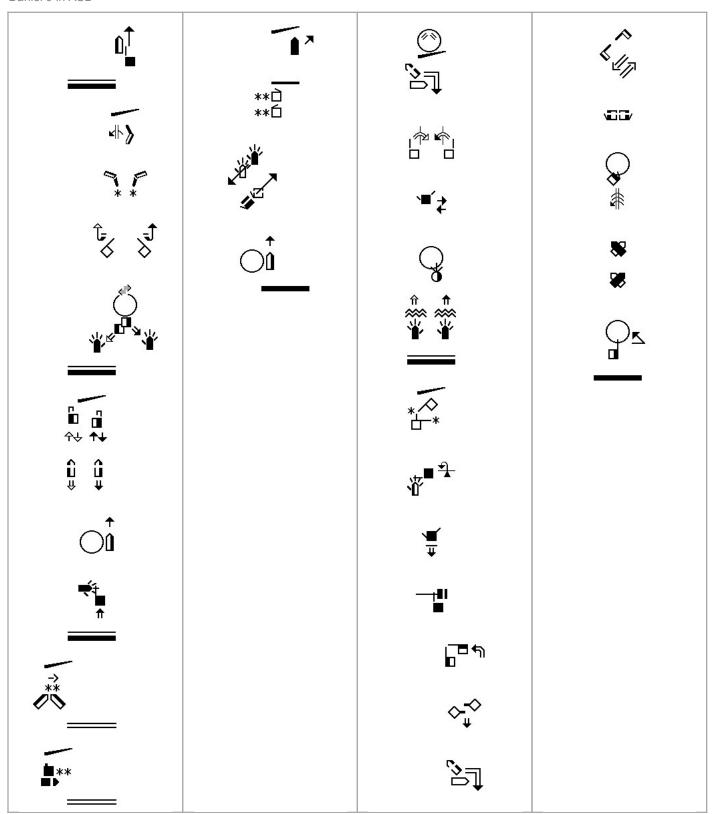
to give you insight and understanding. Verse 23. The moment you began praying, a command was given. And now I am here to tell you what it was, for you are very precious to God. Listen carefully so that you can understand the meaning of your vision. NLT



Verse 24. "A period of seventy sets of seven has been decreed for your people and your holy city to finish their rebellion, to put an end to their sin, to atone for their guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to confirm the prophetic vision, and to anoint the Most Holy Place. Verse 25. Now listen and understand! Seven sets of seven plus sixty-two sets

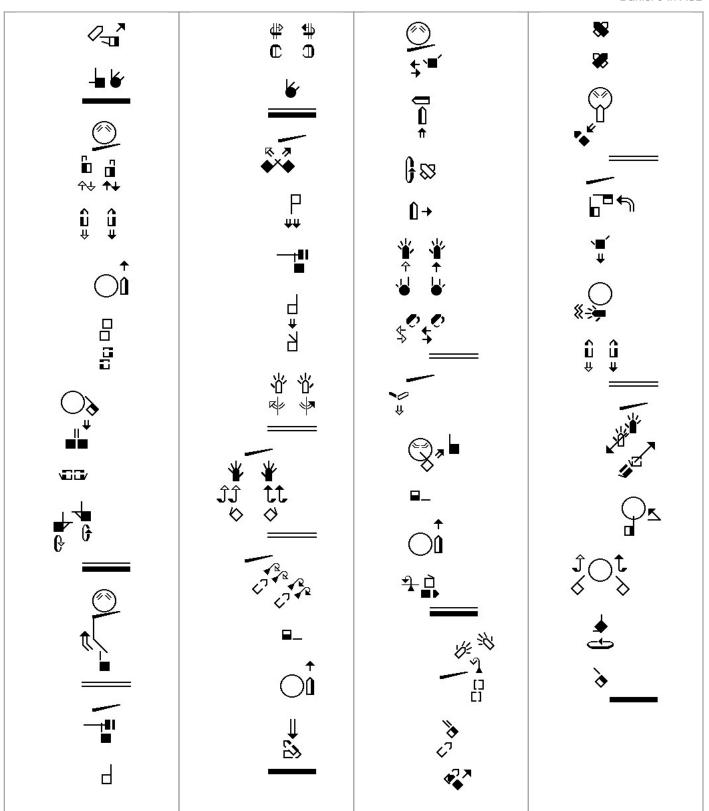


of seven will pass from the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until a ruler -- the Anointed One -- comes. Jerusalem will be rebuilt with streets and strong defenses, despite the perilous times. Verse 26. "After this period of sixty-two sets of seven, the Anointed One will NLT

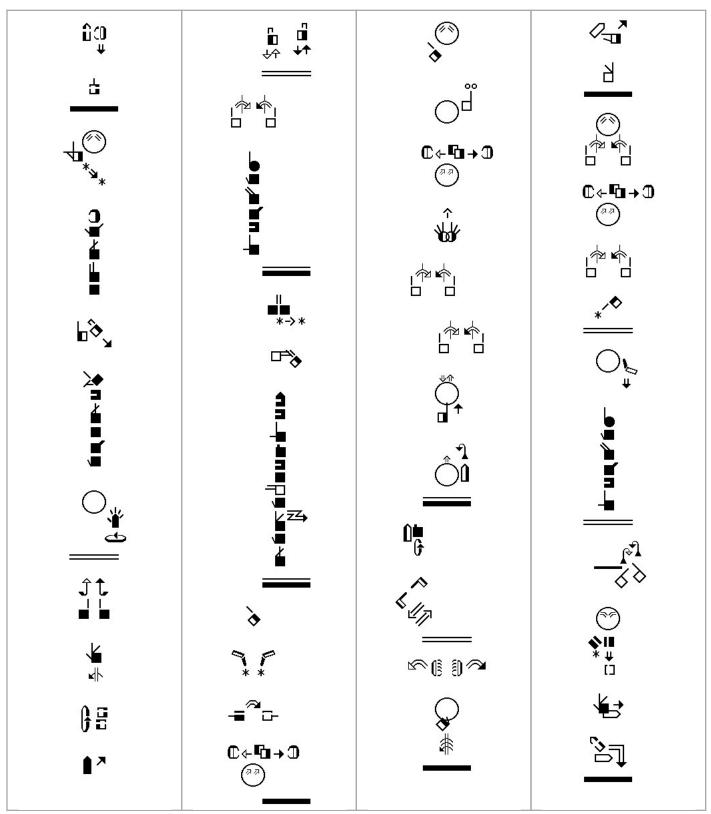


be killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing, and a ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the city and the Temple. The end will come with a flood, and war and its miseries are decreed from that time to the very end.

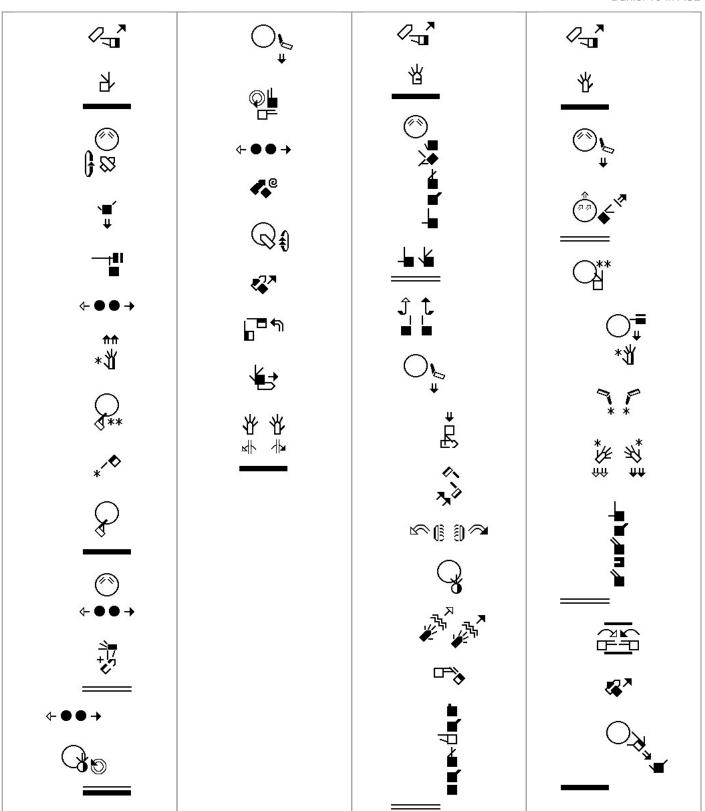
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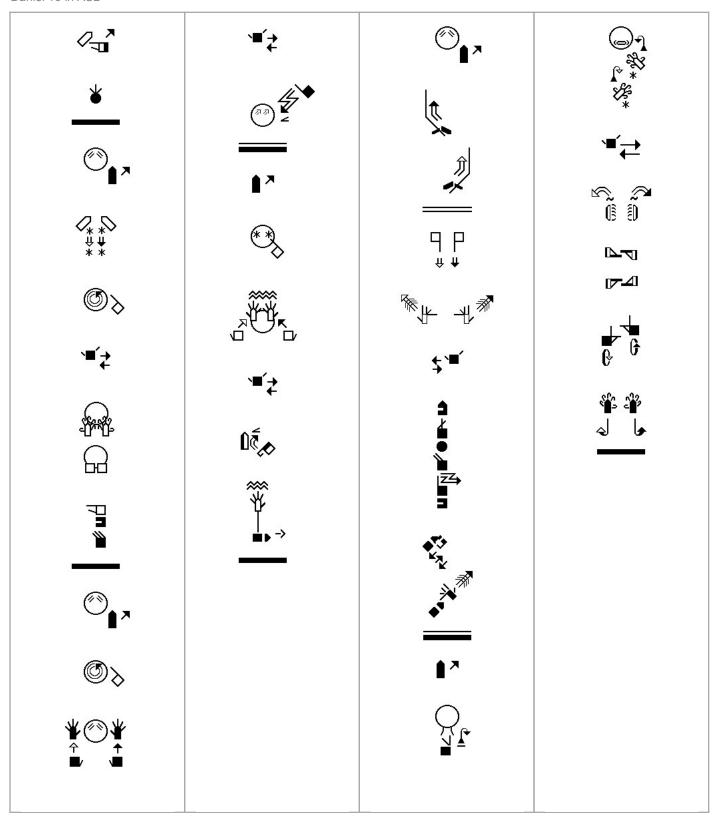
Verse 27. The ruler will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him."



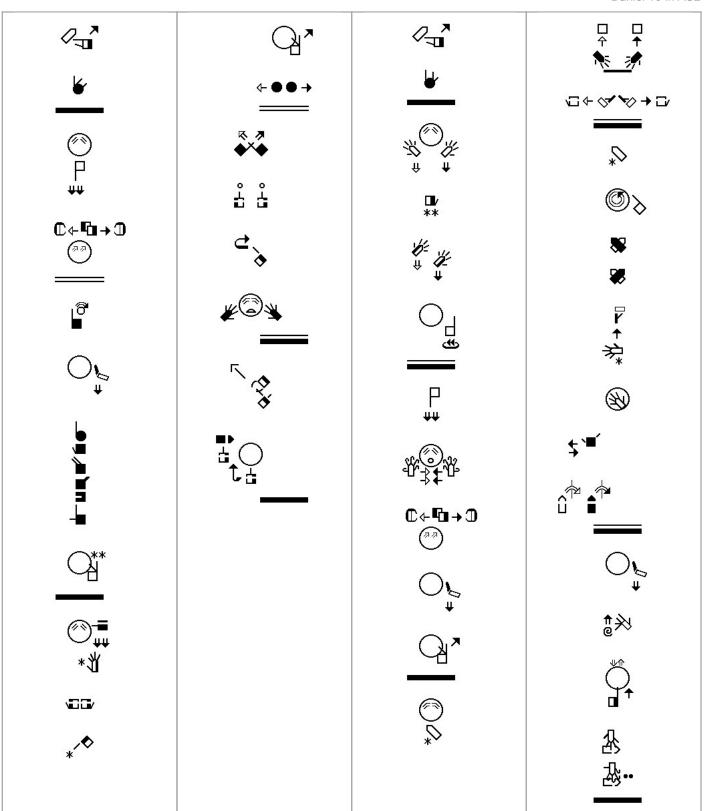
Chapter 10. In the third year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) had another vision. He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future -- times of war and great hardship. Verse 2. When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks.



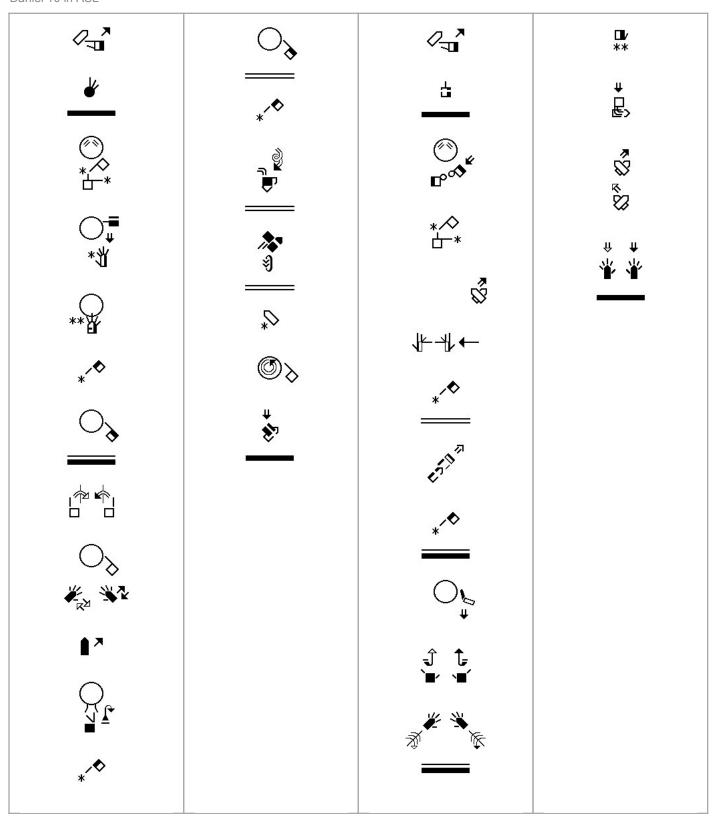
Verse 3. All that time I had eaten no rich food. No meat or wine crossed my lips, and I used no fragrant lotions until those three weeks had passed. Verse 4. On April 23, as I was standing on the bank of the great Tigris River, Verse 5. I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist.



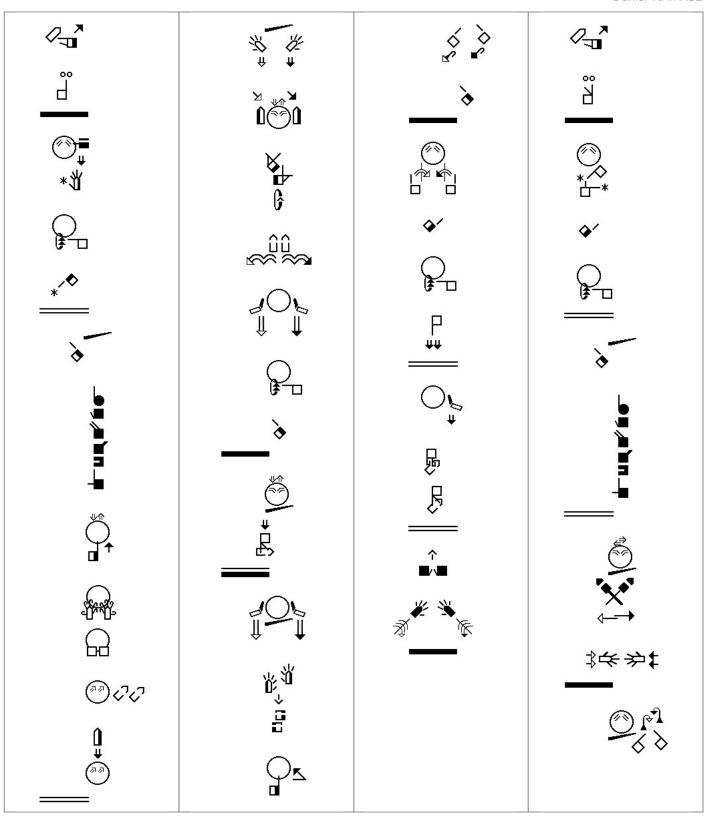
Verse 6. His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people.



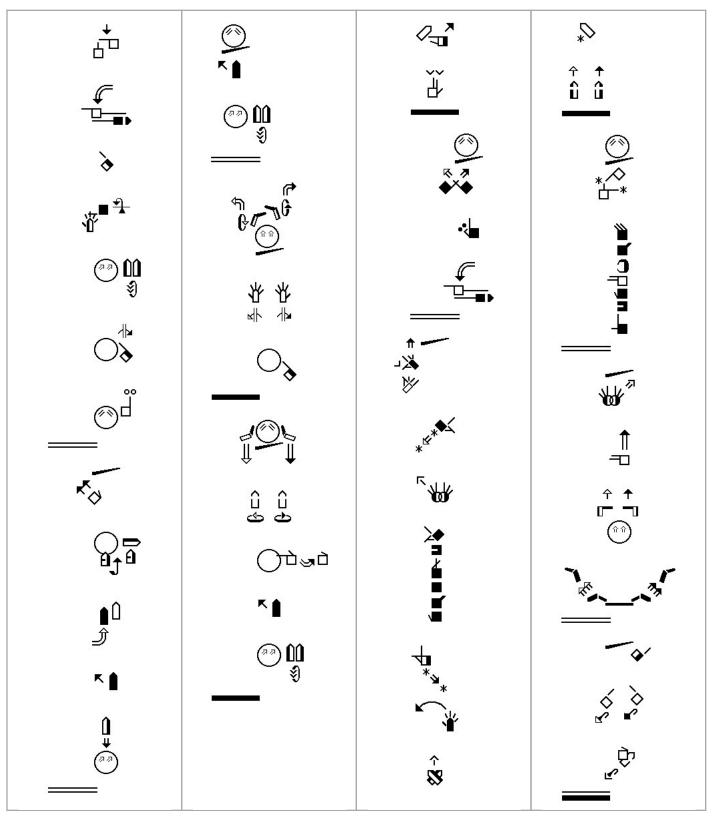
Verse 7. Only I, Daniel, saw this vision. The men with me saw nothing, but they were suddenly terrified and ran away to hide. Verse 8. So I was left there all alone to see this amazing vision. My strength left me, my face grew deathly pale, and I felt very weak. NLT



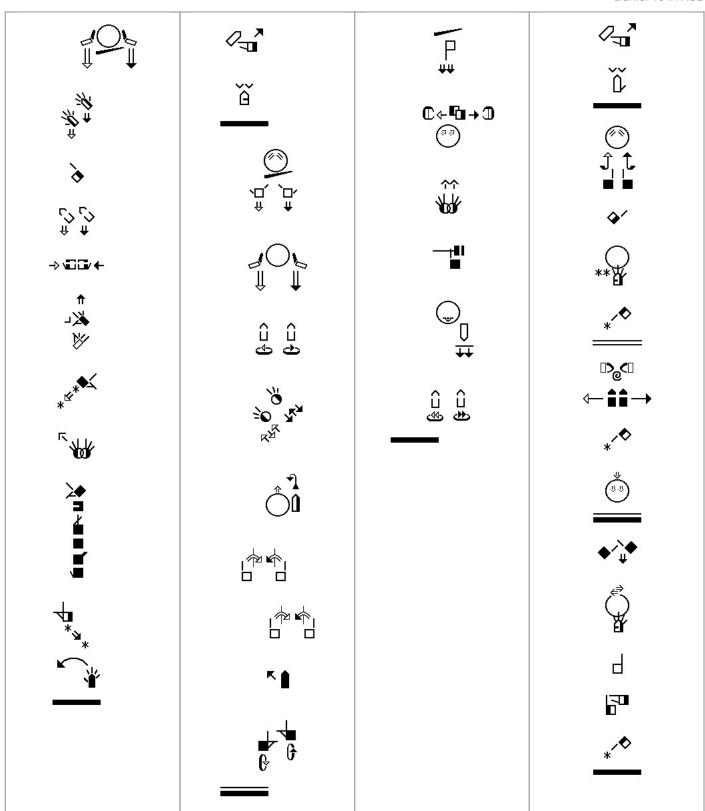
Verse 9. Then I heard the man speak, and when I heard the sound of his voice, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground. Verse 10. Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees.



Verse 11. And the man said to me, "Daniel, you are very precious to God, so listen carefully to what I have to say to you. Stand up, for I have been sent to you." When he said this to me, I stood up, still trembling. Verse 12. Then he said, "Don't be afraid, Daniel. Since

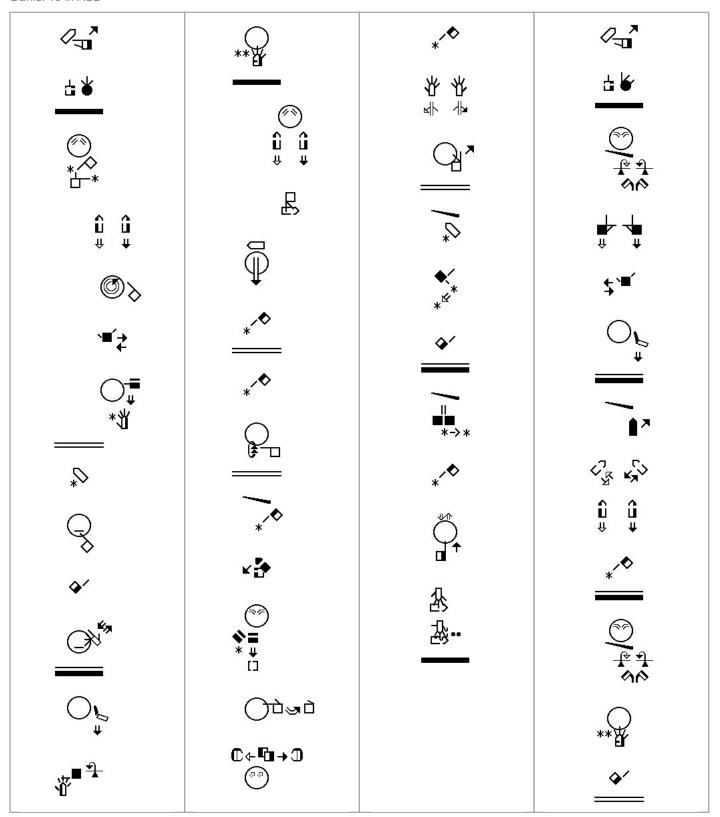


the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. Verse 13. But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me,

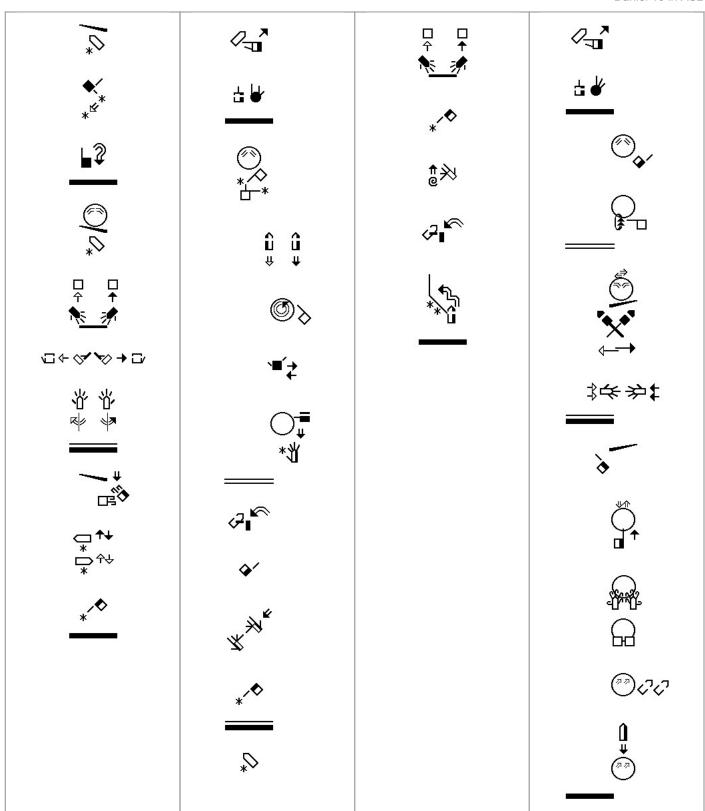


and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia. Verse 14. Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come." Verse 15. While he was speaking to me, I looked down at the ground, unable to say a word.

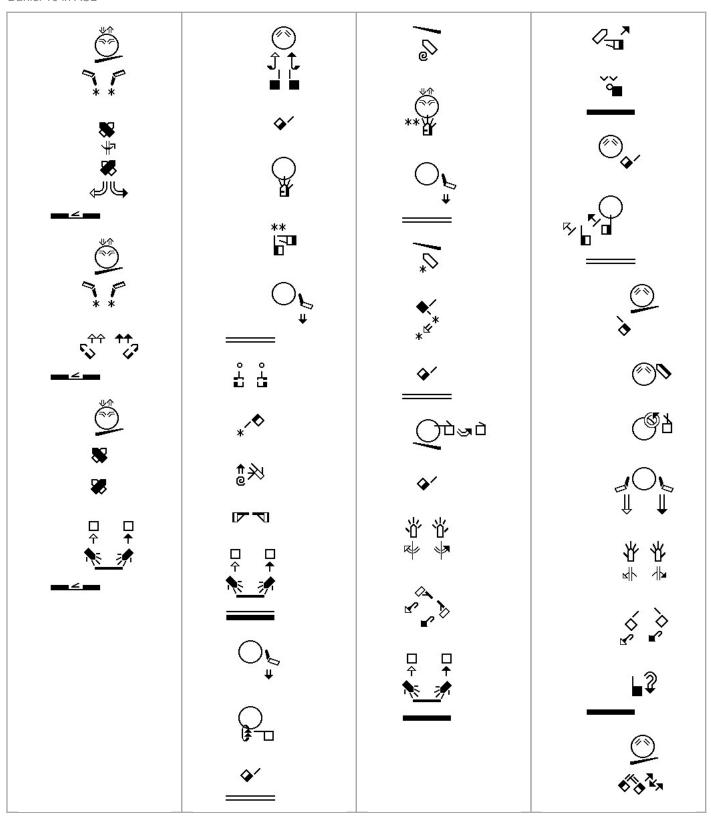
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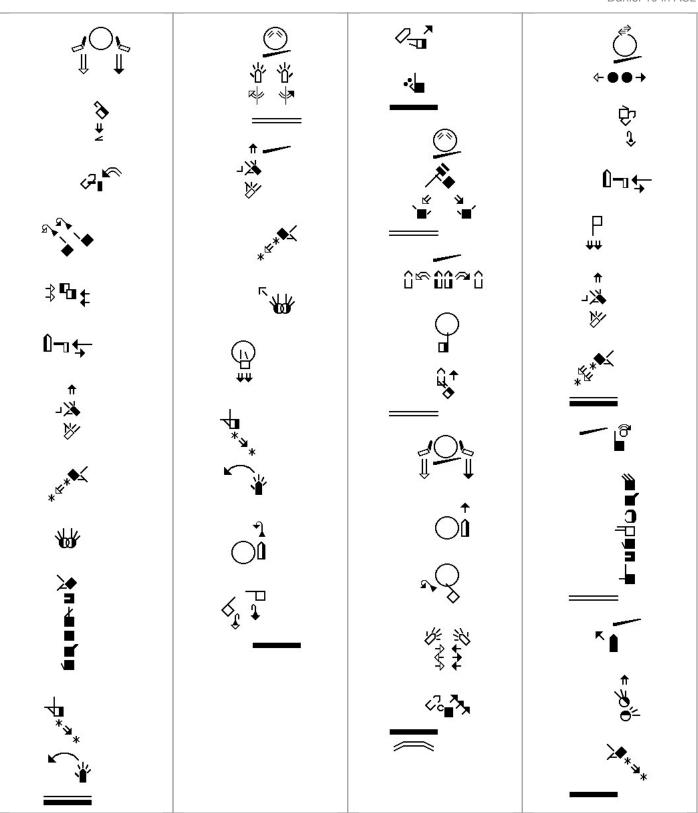
Verse 16. Then the one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing in front of me, "I am filled with anguish because of the vision I have seen, my lord, and I am very weak. Verse 17. How can someone like me, your servant, talk to you,



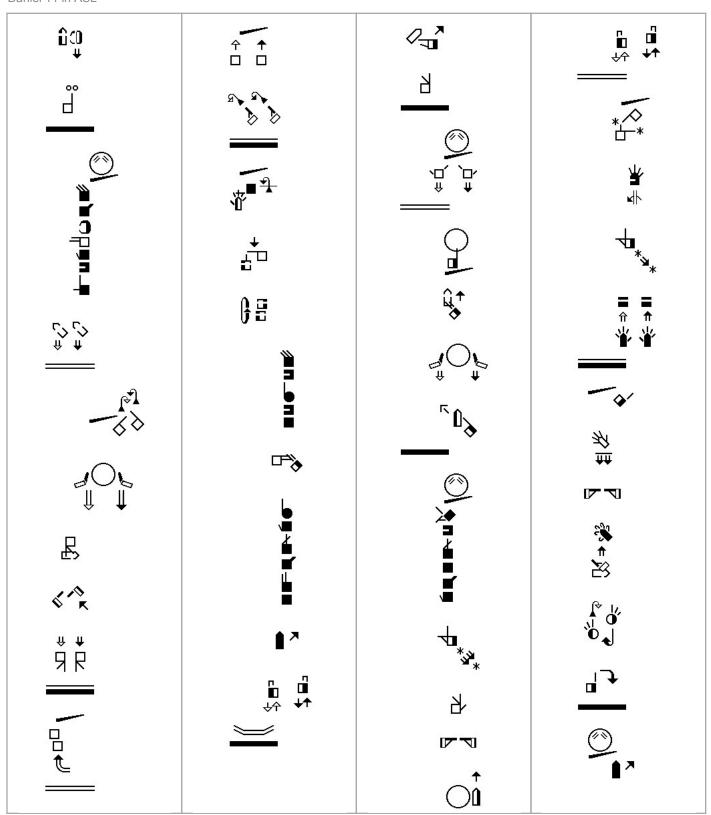
my lord? My strength is gone and I can hardly breathe." Verse 18. Then the one who looked like a man touched me again, and I felt my strength returning. Verse 19. "Don't be afraid," he said, "for you are very precious to God.



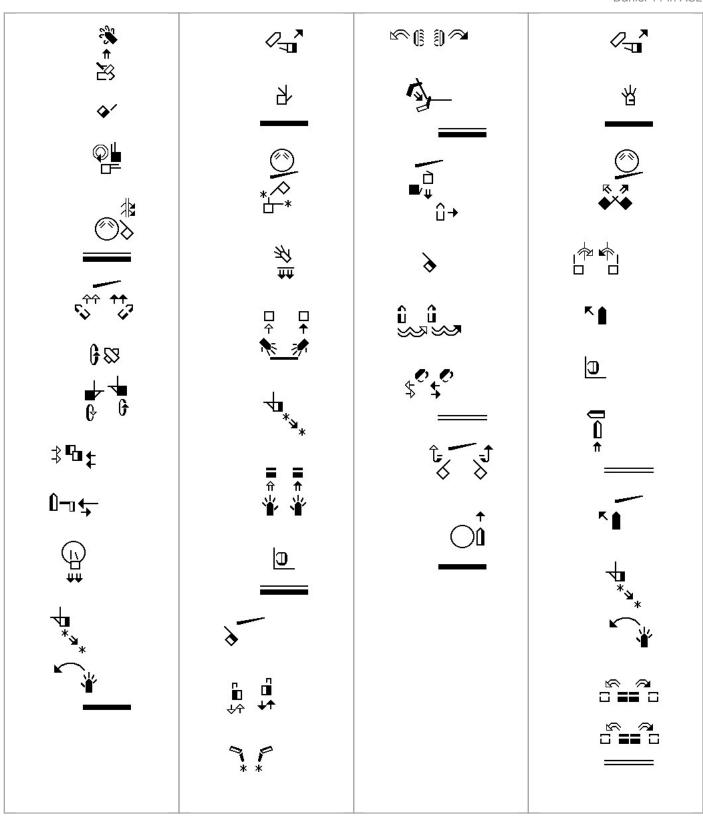
Peace! Be encouraged! Be strong!" As he spoke these words to me, I suddenly felt stronger and said to him, "Please speak to me, my lord, for you have strengthened me." Verse 20. He replied, "Do you know why I have come? Soon NLT



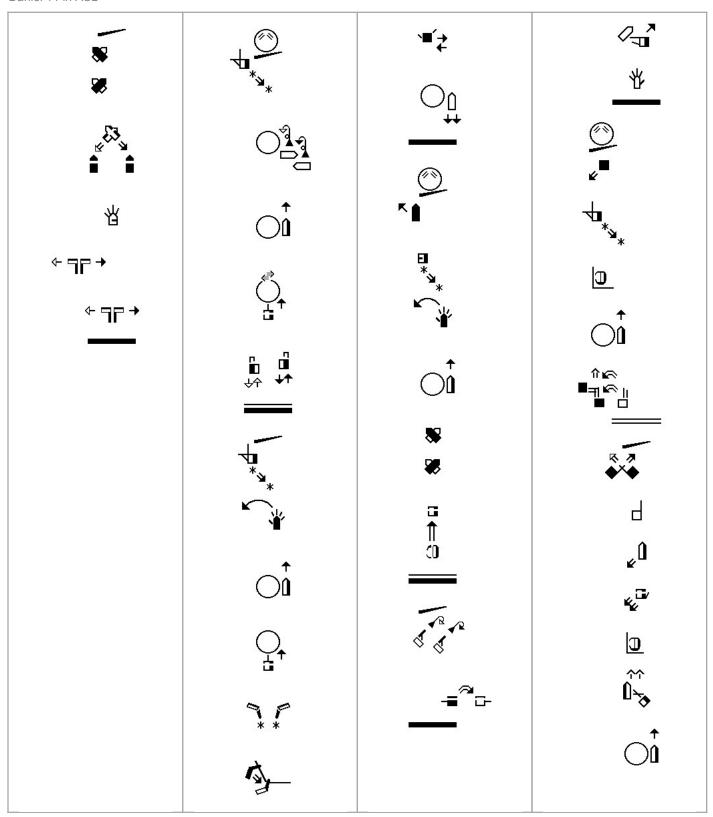
I must return to fight against the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia, and after that the spirit prince of the kingdom of Greece will come. Verse 21. Meanwhile, I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one helps me against these spirit princes except Michael, your spirit prince.



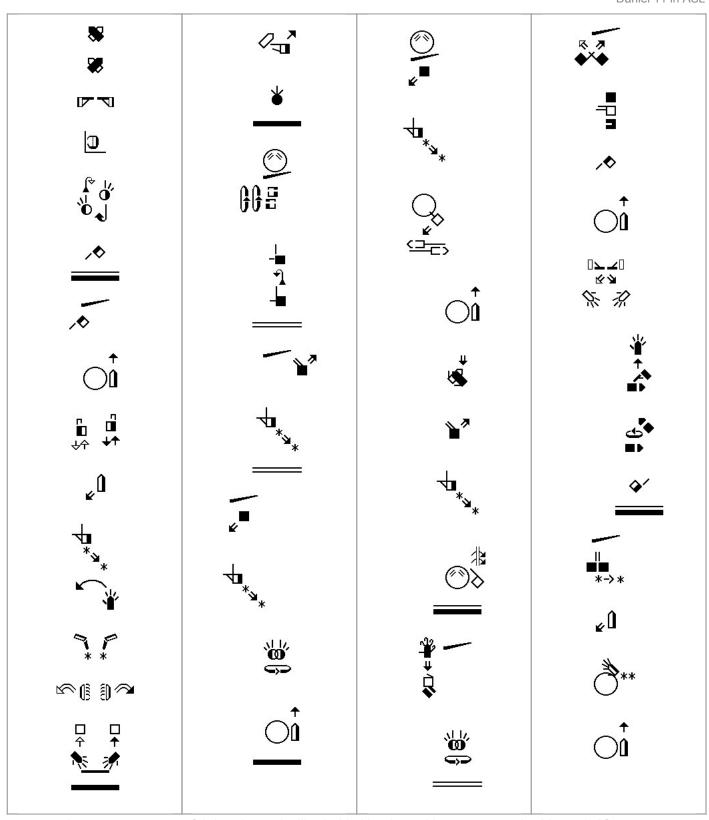
Chapter 11. I have been standing beside Michael to support and strengthen him since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede.) Verse 2. "Now then, I will reveal the truth to you. Three more Persian kings will reign, to be succeeded by a fourth, far richer than the others.



He will use his wealth to stir up everyone to fight against the kingdom of Greece. Verse 3. "Then a mighty king will rise to power who will rule with great authority and accomplish everything he sets out to do. Verse 4. But at the height of his power, his kingdom will be broken apart NLT

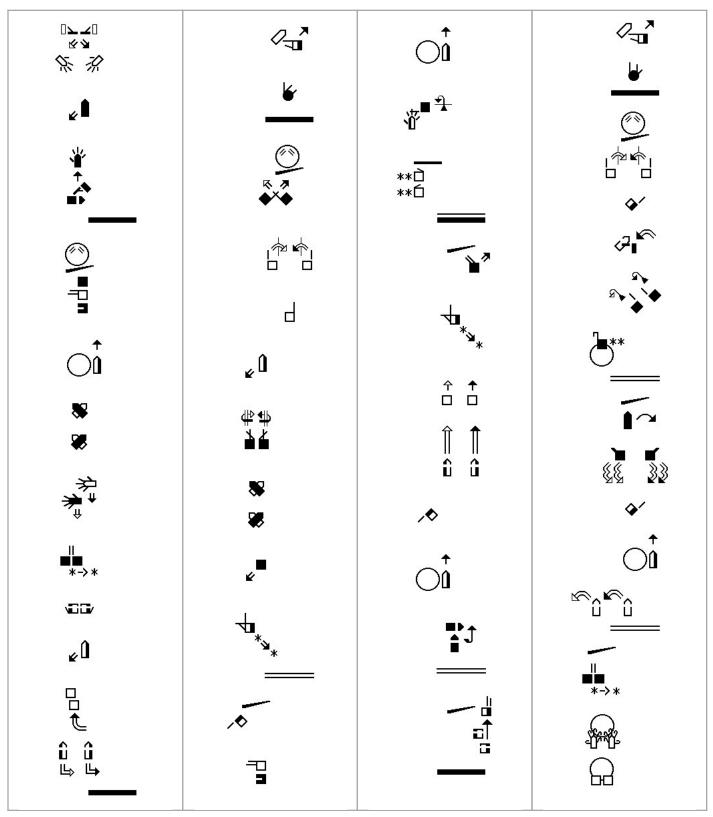


and divided into four parts. It will not be ruled by the king's descendants, nor will the kingdom hold the authority it once had. For his empire will be uprooted and given to others. Verse 5. "The king of the south will increase in power, but one of his own officials will NLT

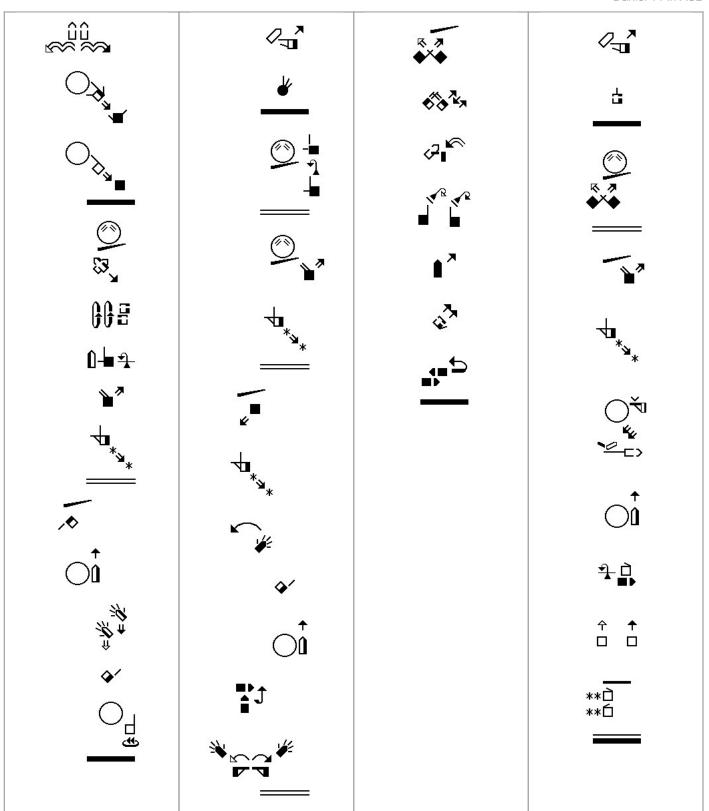


become more powerful than he and will rule his kingdom with great strength. Verse 6. "Some years later an alliance will be formed between the king of the north and the king of the south. The daughter of the king of the south will be given in marriage to the king of the north to secure the alliance, but she will lose her influence over him, and so will her father.

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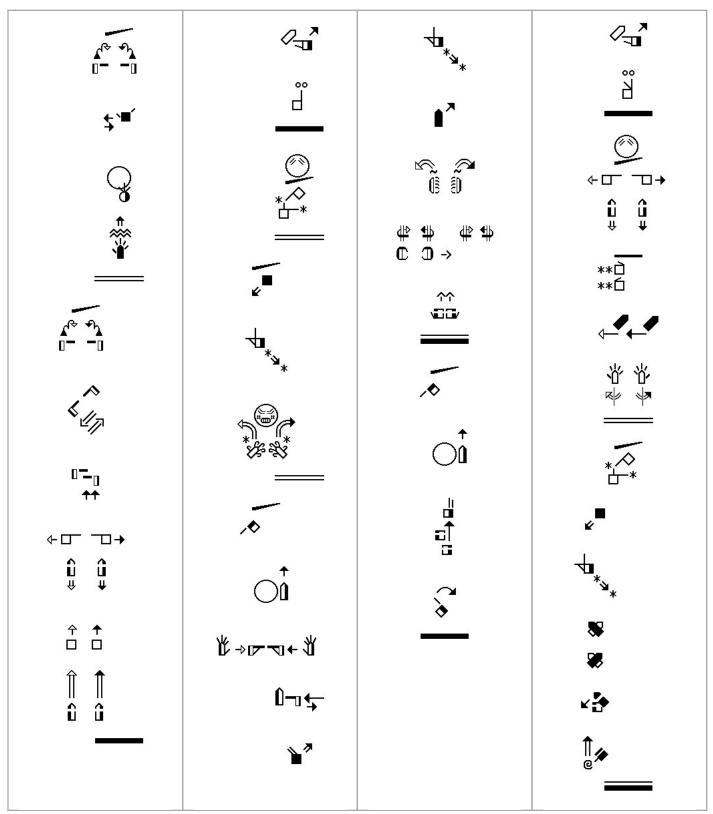


She will be abandoned along with her supporters. Verse 7. But when one of her relatives becomes king of the south, he will raise an army and enter the fortress of the king of the north and defeat him. Verse 8. When he returns to Egypt, he will carry back their idols with him, along with priceless



articles of gold and silver. For some years afterward he will leave the king of the north alone. Verse 9. "Later the king of the north will invade the realm of the king of the south but will soon return to his own land. Verse 10. However, the sons of the king of the north will assemble a mighty army

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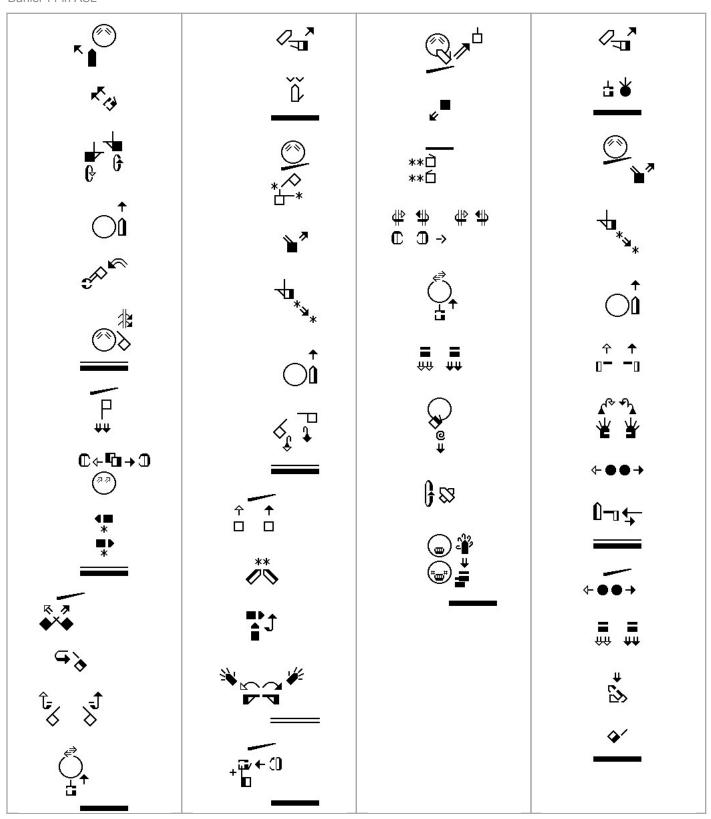
that will advance like a flood and carry the battle as far as the enemy's fortress. Verse 11. "Then, in a rage, the king of the south will rally against the vast forces assembled by the king of the north and will defeat them. Verse 12. After the enemy army is swept away, the king of the south will be filled with pride

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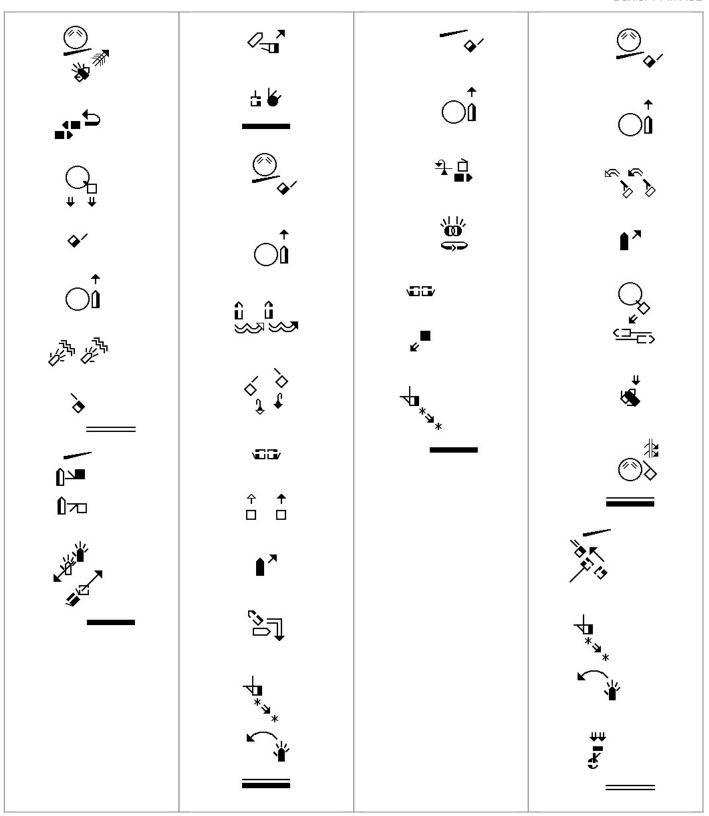
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and will execute many thousands of his enemies. But his success will be short lived. Verse 13. "A few years later the king of the north will return with a fully equipped army far greater than before. Verse 14. At that time there will be a general uprising against the king of the south. Violent men among

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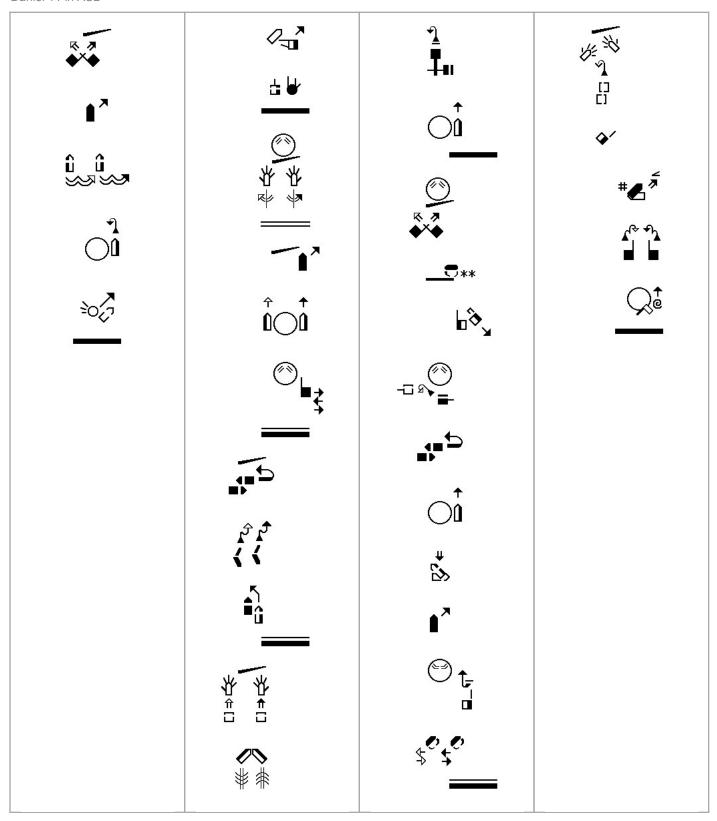


your own people will join them in fulfillment of this vision, but they will not succeed. Verse 15. Then the king of the north will come and lay siege to a fortified city and capture it. The best troops of the south will not be able to stand in the face of the onslaught. Verse 16. "The king of the north will march onward unopposed; none will be able to stop him.



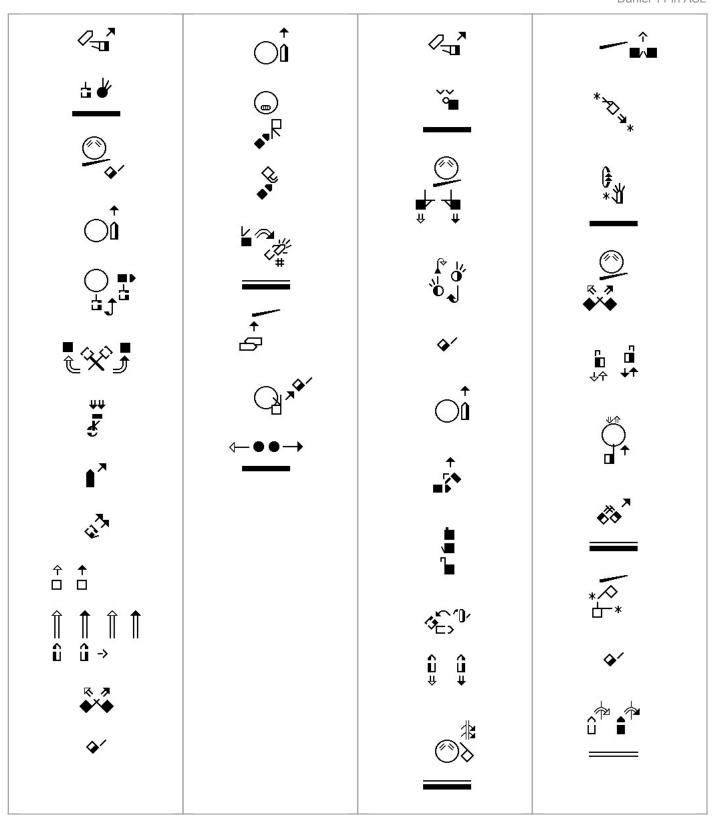
He will pause in the glorious land of Israel, intent on destroying it. Verse 17. He will make plans to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will form an alliance with the king of the south. He will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom from within,

Daniel 11 in ASL



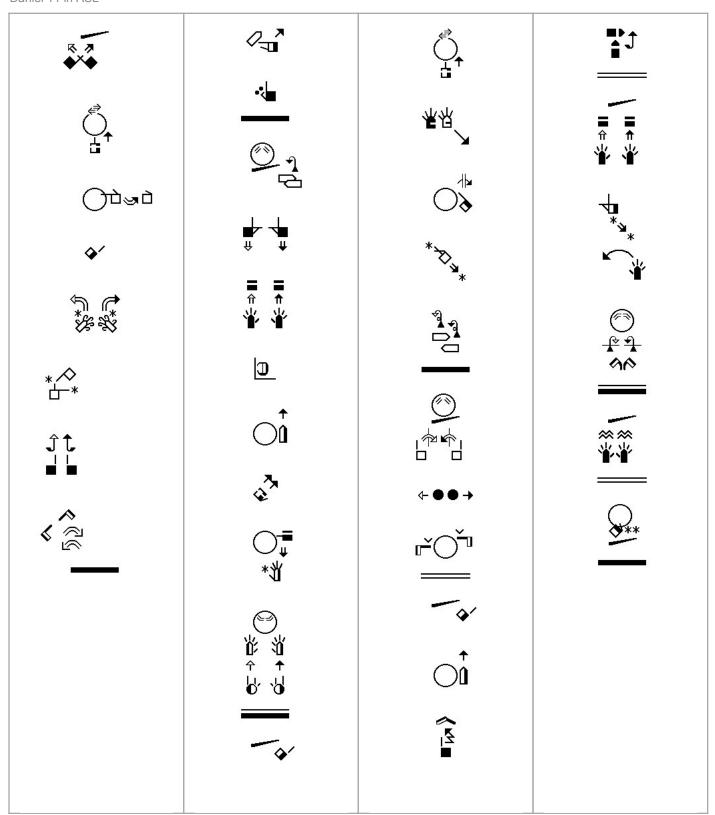
but his plan will fail. Verse 18. "After this, he will turn his attention to the coastland and conquer many cities. But a commander from another land will put an end to his insolence and cause him to retreat in shame.

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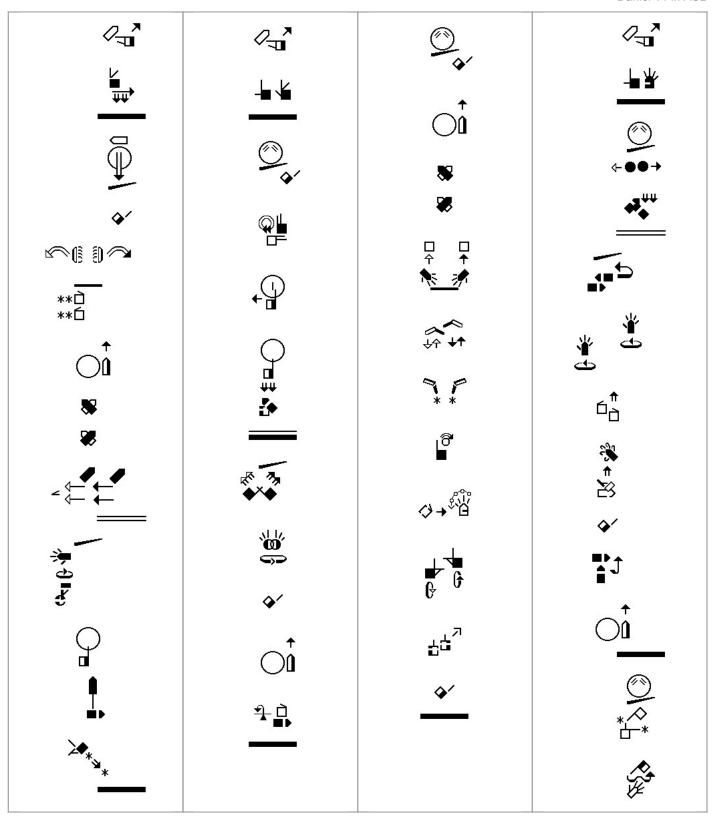


Verse 19. He will take refuge in his own fortresses but will stumble and fall and be seen no more. Verse 20. "His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor. But after a very brief reign, he will die,

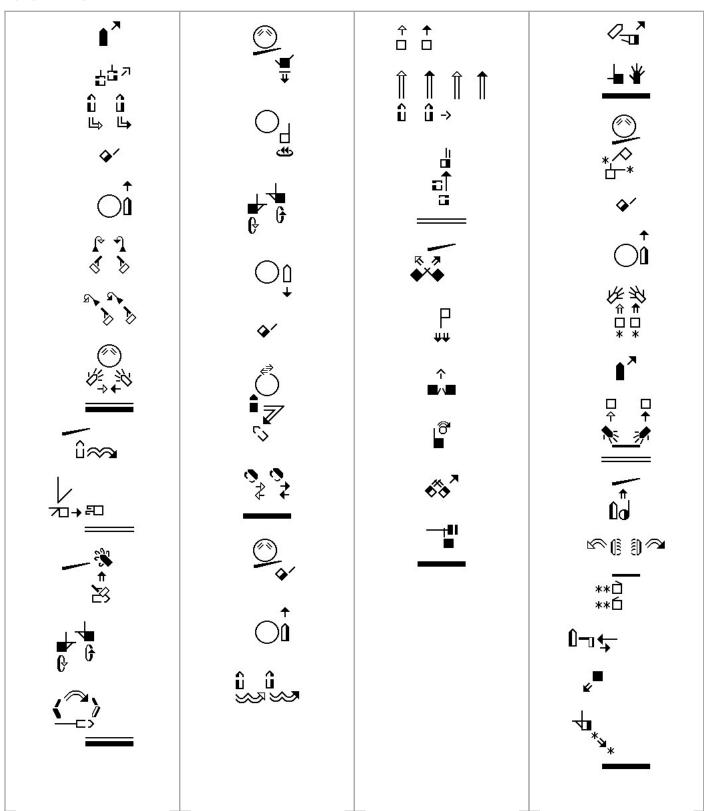
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though not from anger or in battle. Verse 21. "The next to come to power will be a despicable man who is not in line for royal succession. He will slip in when least expected and take over the kingdom by flattery and intrigue.



Verse 22. Before him great armies will be swept away, including a covenant prince. Verse 23. With deceitful promises, he will make various alliances. He will become strong despite having only a handful of followers. Verse 24. Without warning he will enter the richest areas of the land. Then

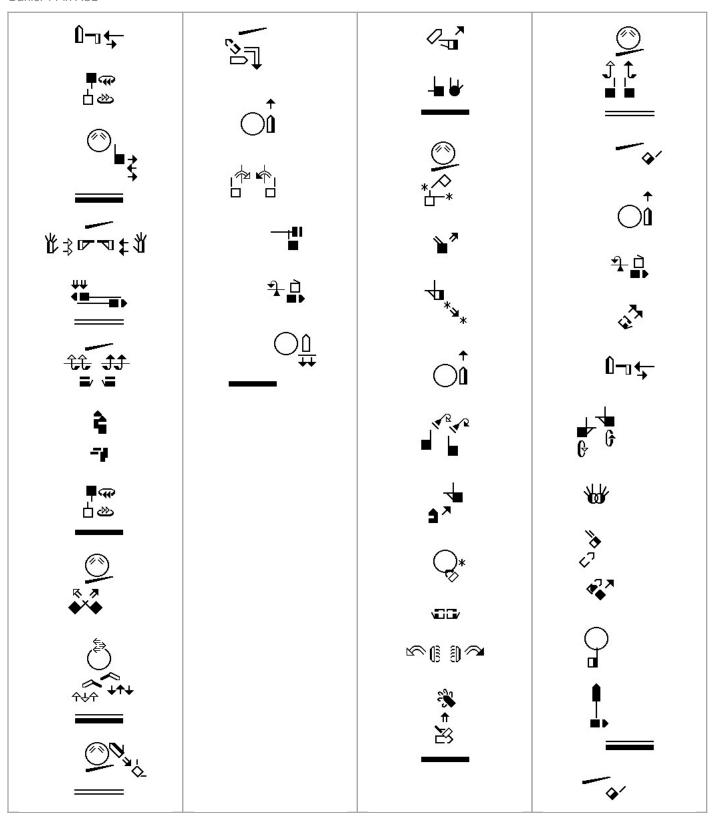


he will distribute among his followers the plunder and wealth of the rich -- something his predecessors had never done. He will plot the overthrow of strongholds, but this will last for only a short while. Verse 25. "Then he will stir up his courage and raise a great army against the king of the south.

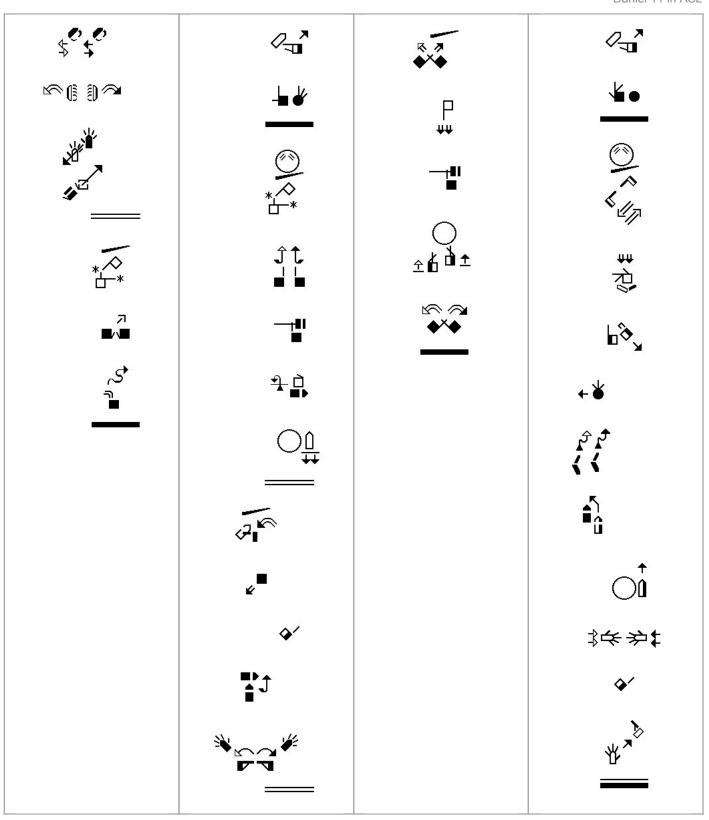
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| | | Daniel 11 in ASL |
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The king of the south will go to battle with a mighty army, but to no avail, for there will be plots against him. Verse 26. His own household will cause his downfall. His army will be swept away, and many will be killed. Verse 27. Seeking nothing but each other's harm, these kings will plot

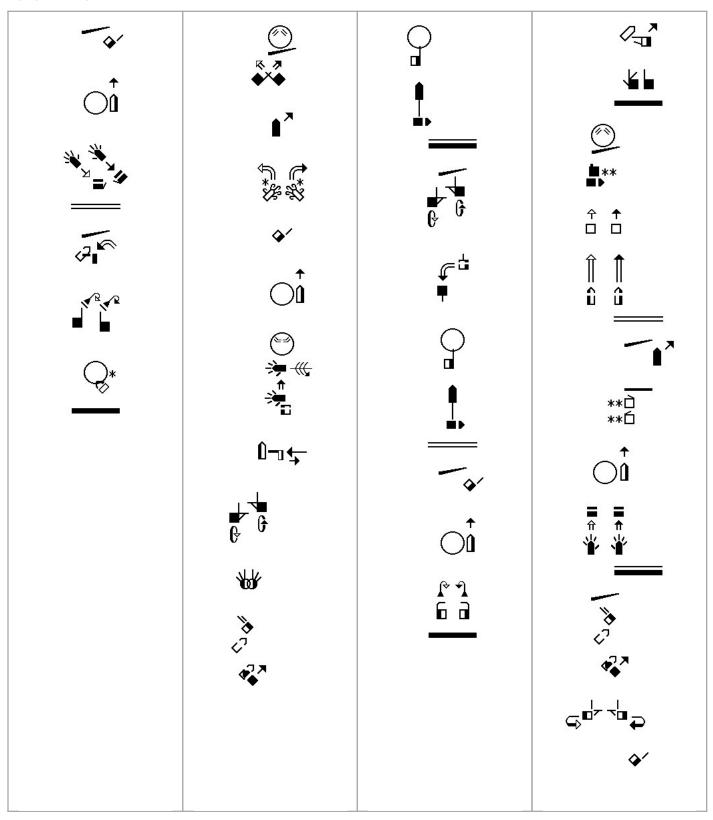


each other at the conference table, attempting to deceive each other. But it will make no difference, for the end will come at the appointed time. Verse 28. "The king of the north will then return home with great riches. On the way he will set himself against the people of the holy covenant,

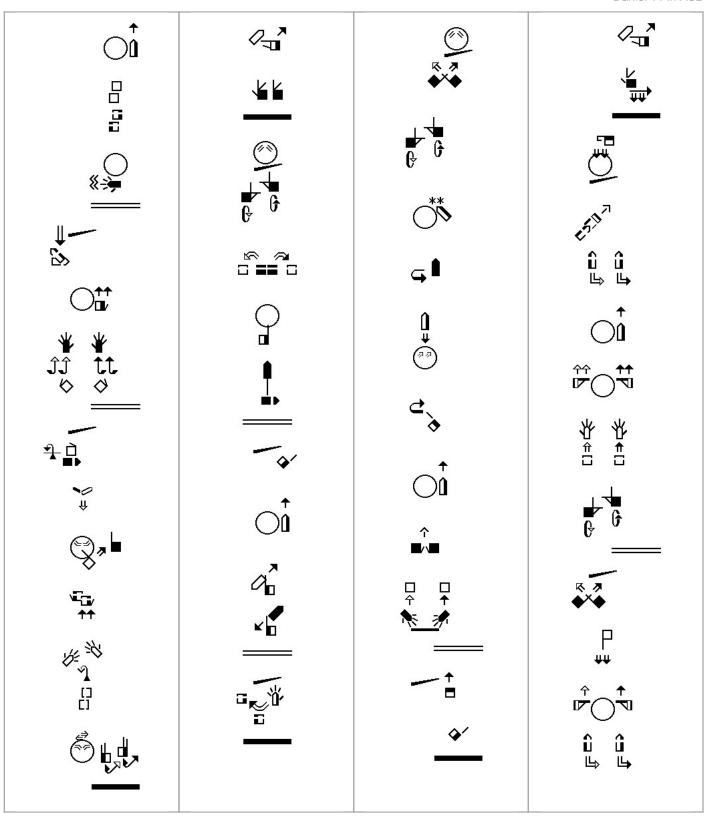


doing much damage before continuing his journey. Verse 29. "Then at the appointed time he will once again invade the south, but this time the result will be different. Verse 30. For warships from western coastlands will scare him off,

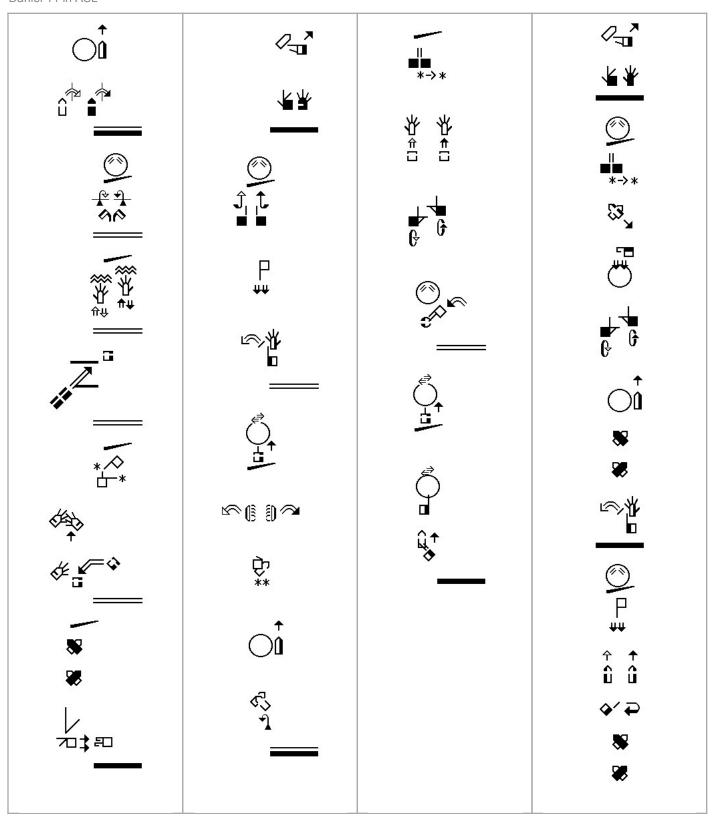
Daniel 11 in ASL



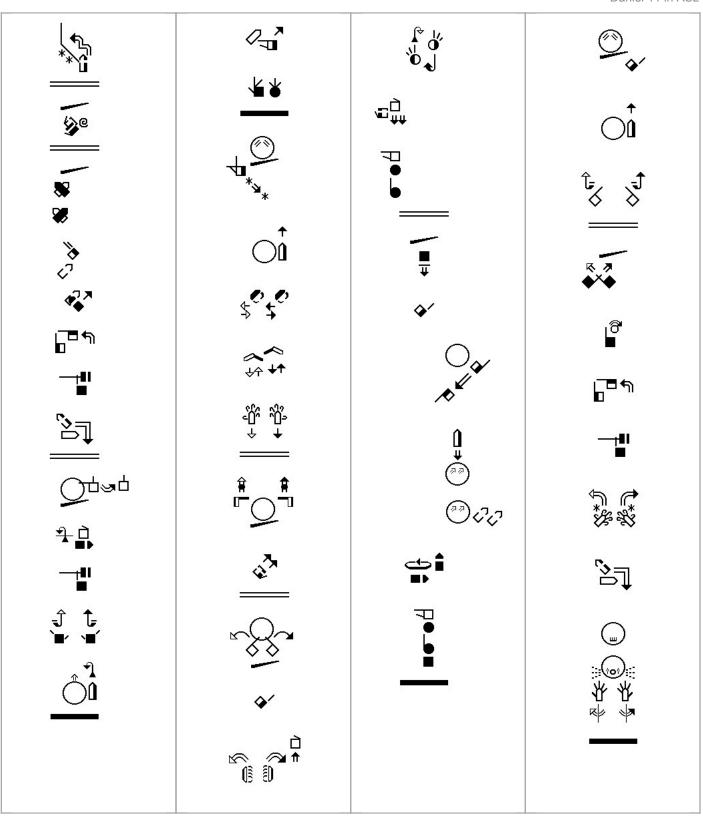
and he will withdraw and return home. But he will vent his anger against the people of the holy covenant and reward those who forsake the covenant. Verse 31. "His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary,



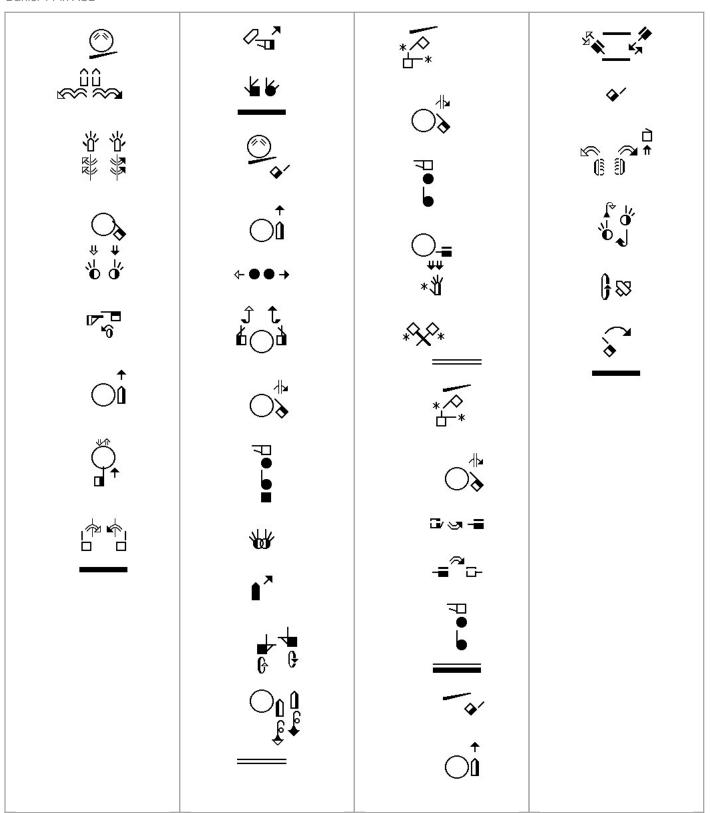
put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration. Verse 32. He will flatter and win over those who have violated the covenant. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him. Verse 33. "Wise leaders will give instruction to many, but these teachers NLT



will die by fire and sword, or they will be jailed and robbed. Verse 34. During these persecutions, little help will arrive, and many who join them will not be sincere. Verse 35. And some of the wise will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they will be NLT

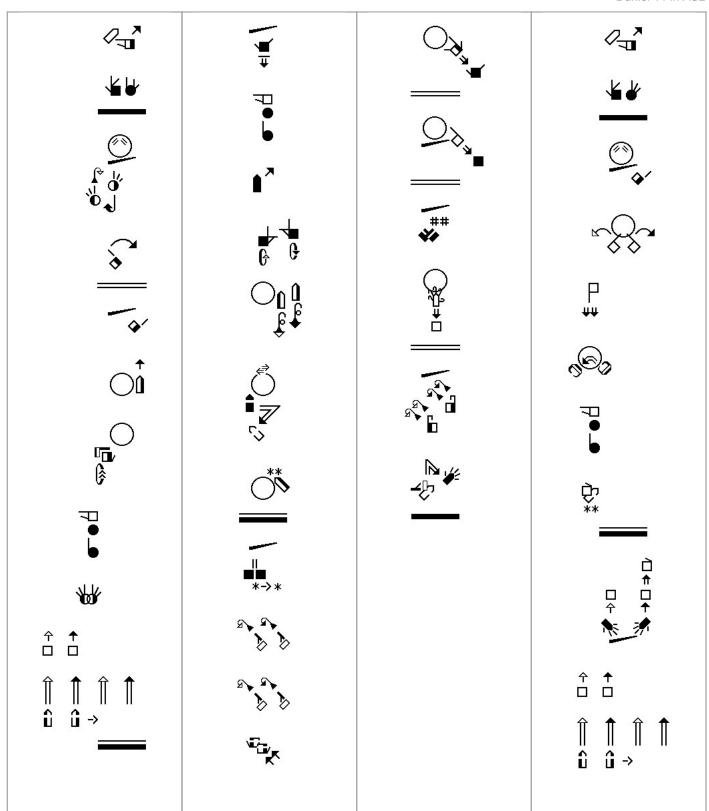


refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, for the appointed time is still to come. Verse 36. "The king will do as he pleases, exalting himself and claiming to be greater than every god, even blaspheming the God of gods. He will succeed, but only until the time of wrath is completed.

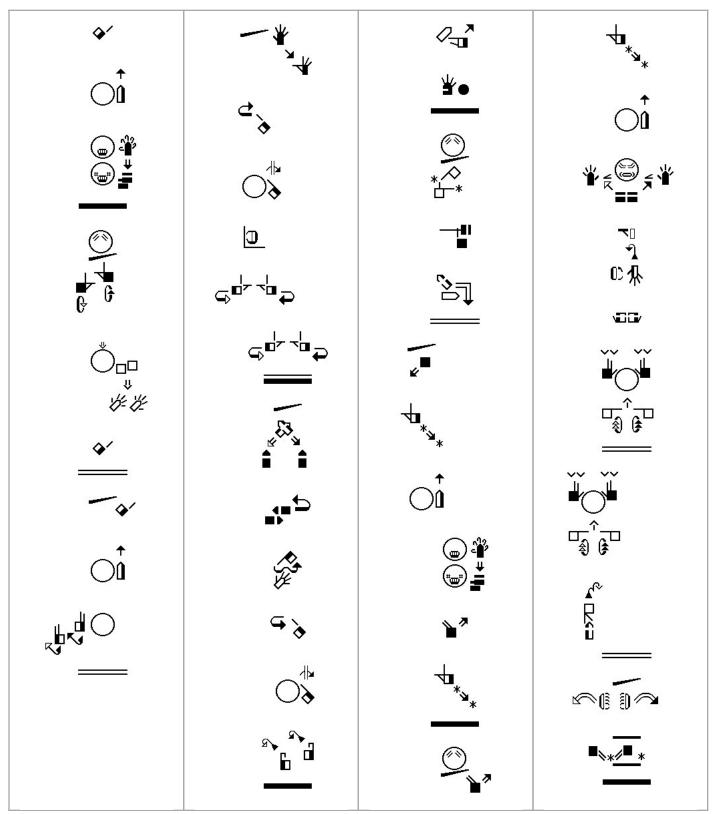


For what has been determined will surely take place. Verse 37. He will have no respect for the gods of his ancestors, or for the god loved by women, or for any other god, for he will boast that he is greater than them all.

NLT

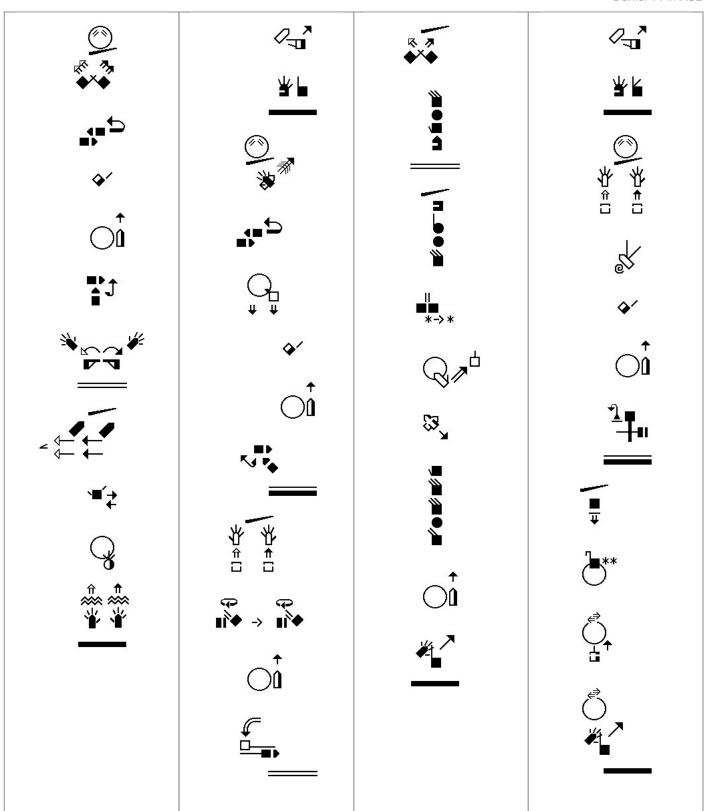


Verse 38. Instead of these, he will worship the god of fortresses -- a god his ancestors never knew -- and lavish on him gold, silver, precious stones, and expensive gifts. Verse 39. Claiming this foreign god's help, he will attack the strongest fortresses.

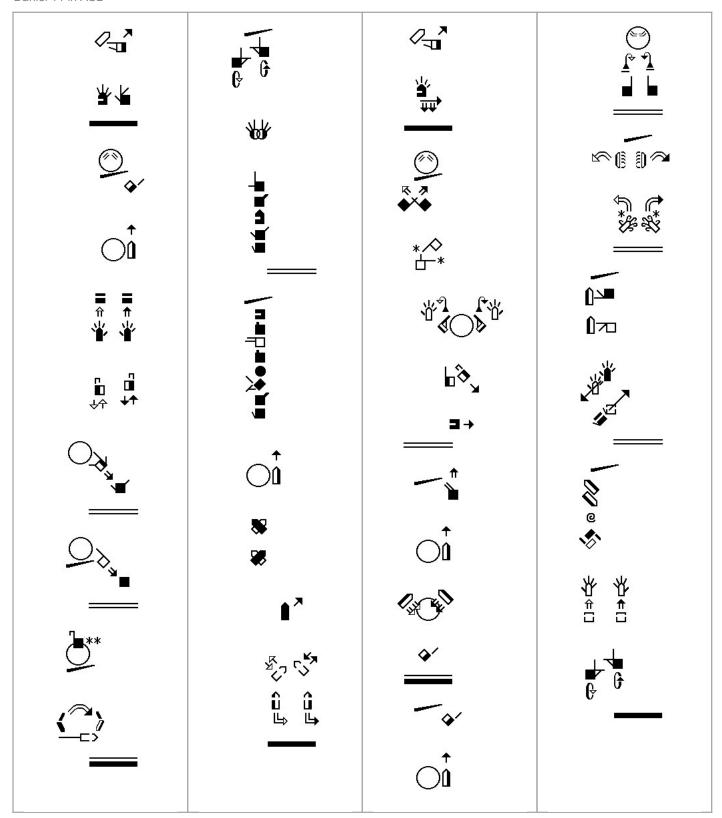


He will honor those who submit to him, appointing them to positions of authority and dividing the land among them as their reward. Verse 40. "Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north. The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy.

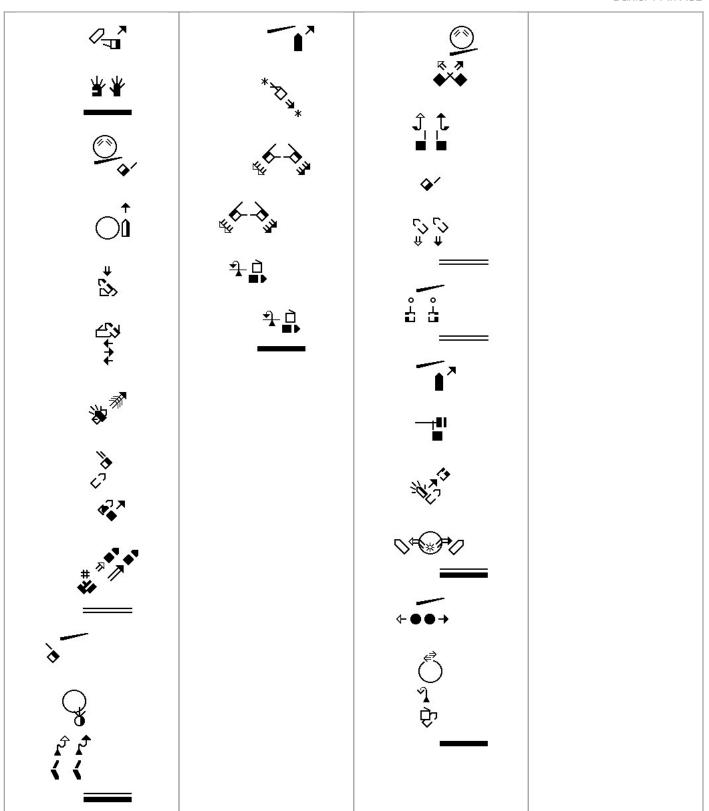
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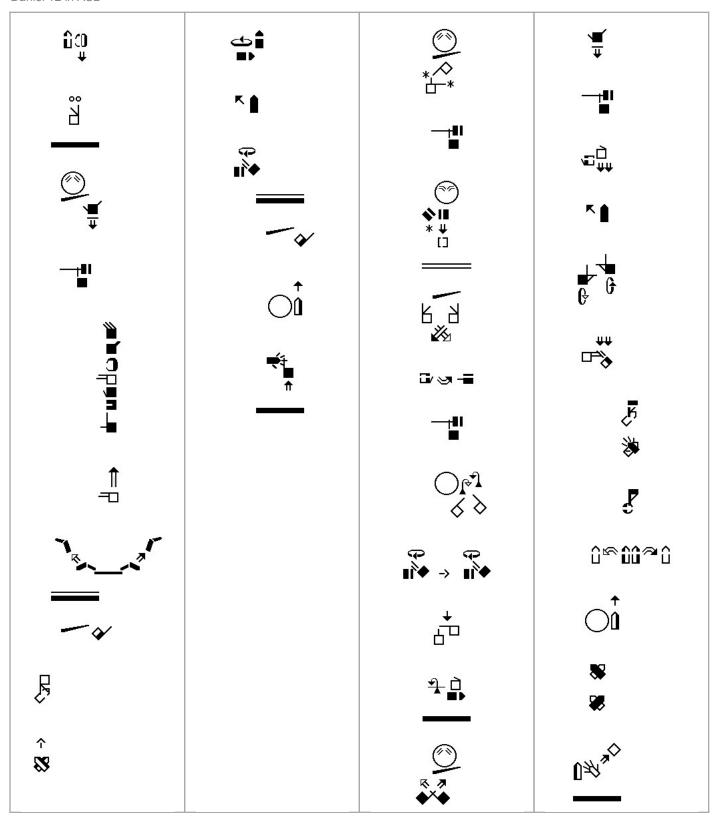
He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood. Verse 41. He will enter the glorious land of Israel, and many nations will fall, but Moab, Edom, and the best part of Ammon will escape. Verse 42. He will conquer many countries, and even Egypt will not escape.



Verse 43. He will gain control over the gold, silver, and treasures of Egypt, and the Libyans and Ethiopians will be his servants. Verse 44. "But then news from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in great anger to destroy and obliterate many. NLT

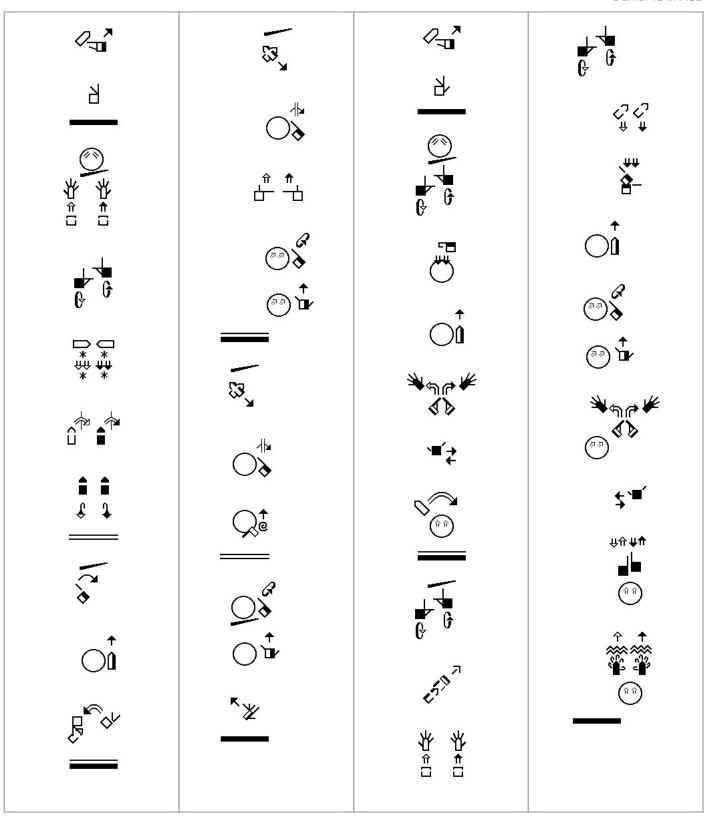


Verse 45. He will stop between the glorious holy mountain and the sea and will pitch his royal tents. But while he is there, his time will suddenly run out, and no one will help him. NLT

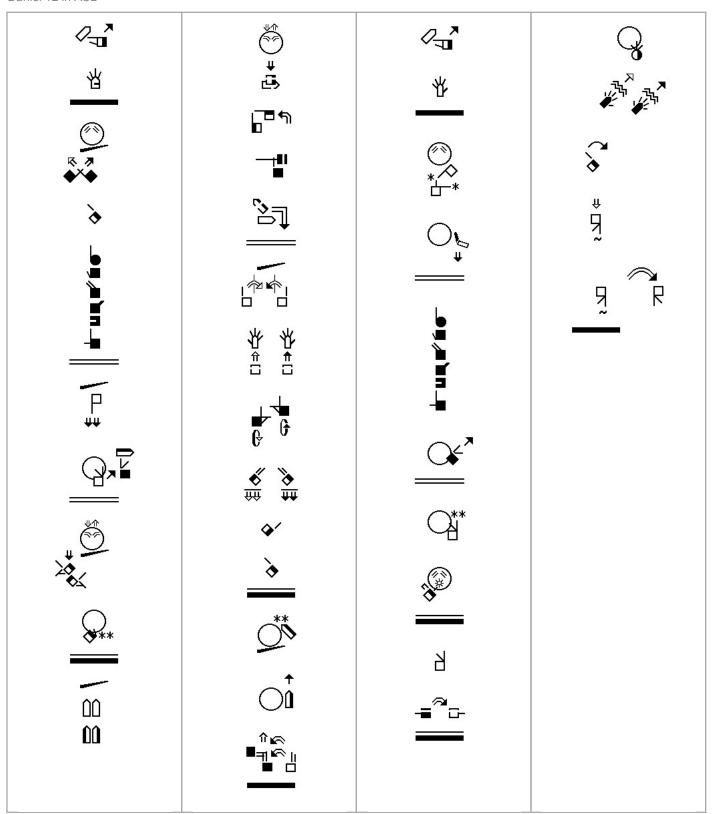


Chapter 12. "At that time Michael, the archangel who stands guard over your nation, will arise. Then there will be a time of anguish greater than any since nations first came into existence. But at that time every one of your people whose name is written in the book will be rescued.

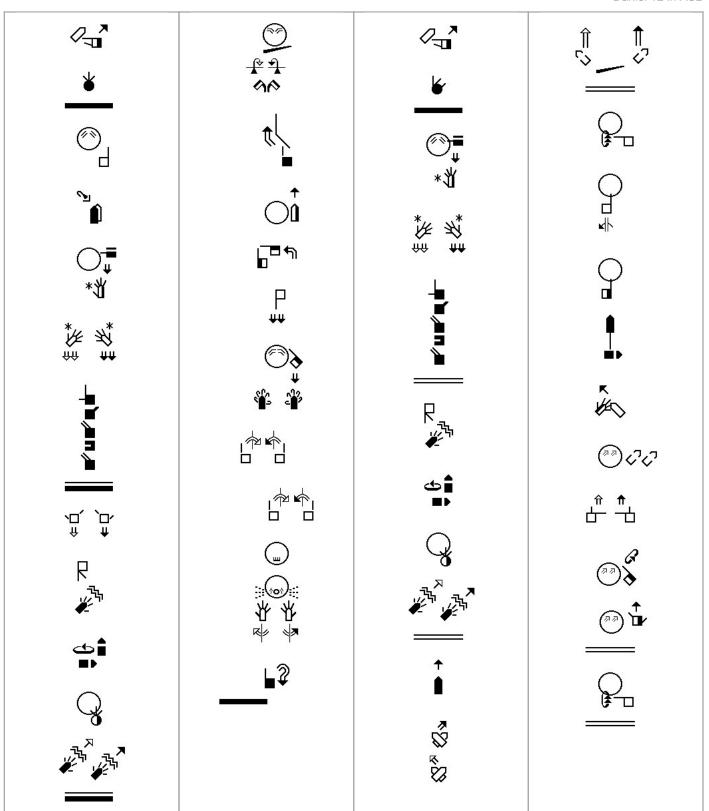
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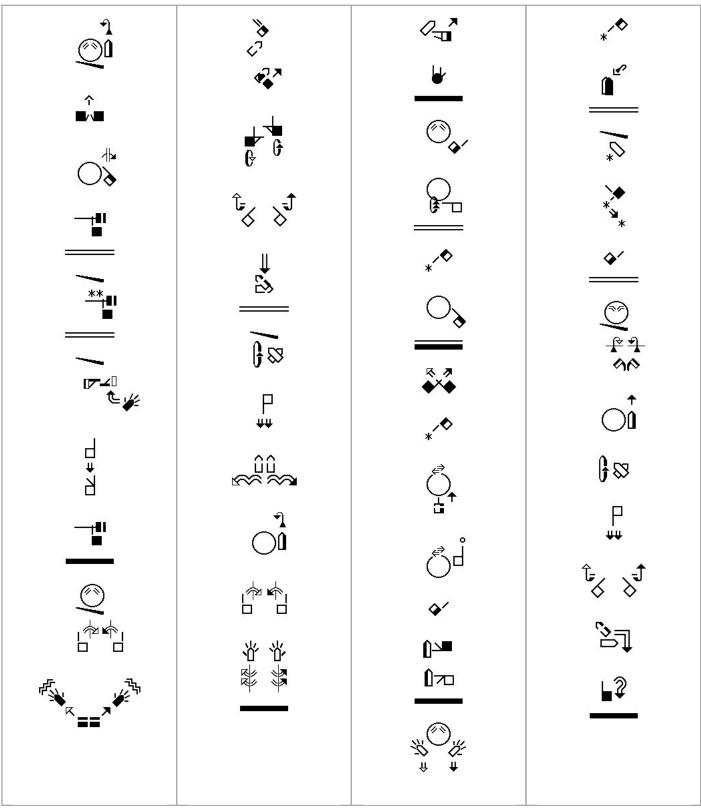
Verse 2. Many of those whose bodies lie dead and buried will rise up, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting disgrace. Verse 3. Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever.



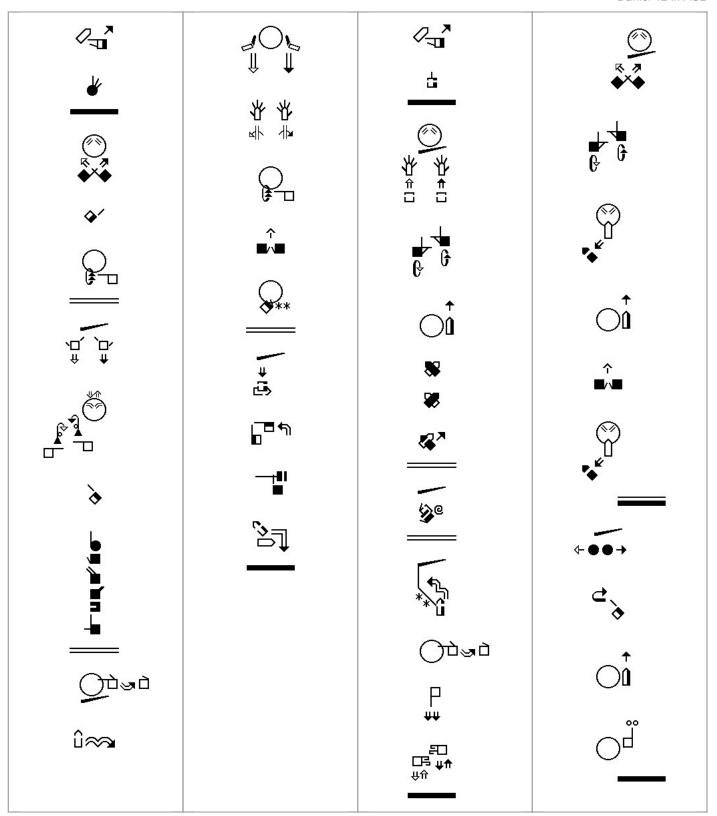
Verse 4. But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a secret; seal up the book until the time of the end, when many will rush here and there, and knowledge will increase." Verse 5. Then I, Daniel, looked and saw two others standing on opposite banks of the river. NLT



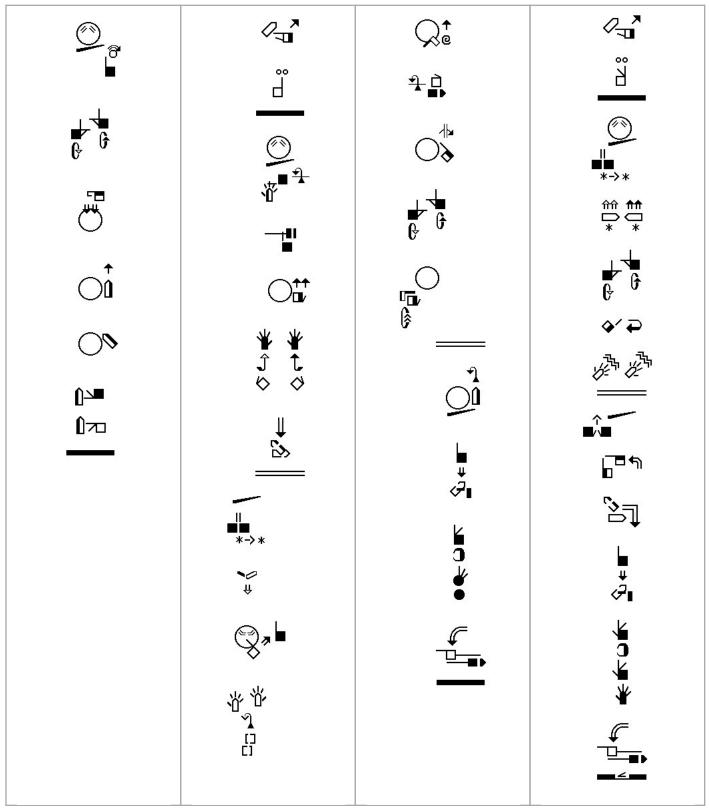
Verse 6. One of them asked the man dressed in linen, who was now standing above the river, "How long will it be until these shocking events are over?" Verse 7. The man dressed in linen, who was standing above the river, raised both his hands toward heaven and took a solemn oath by the One who lives forever, saying,



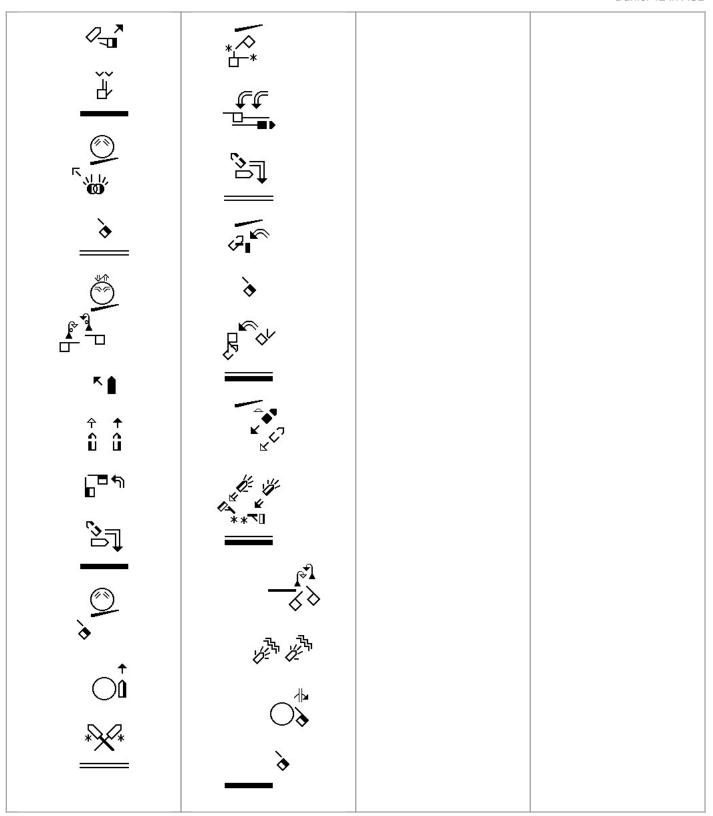
"It will go on for a time, times, and half a time. When the shattering of the holy people has finally come to an end, all these things will have happened." Verse 8. I heard what he said, but I did not understand what he meant. So I asked, "How will all this finally end, my lord?"



Verse 9. But he said, "Go now, Daniel, for what I have said is kept secret and sealed until the time of the end. Verse 10. Many will be purified, cleansed, and refined by these trials. But the wicked will continue in their wickedness, and none of them will understand. NLT



Only those who are wise will know what it means. Verse 11. "From the time the daily sacrifice is stopped and the sacrilegious object that causes desecration is set up to be worshiped, there will be 1,290 days. Verse 12. And blessed are those who wait and remain until the end of the 1,335 days!



Verse 13. "As for you, go your way until the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days, you will rise again to receive the inheritance set aside for you."