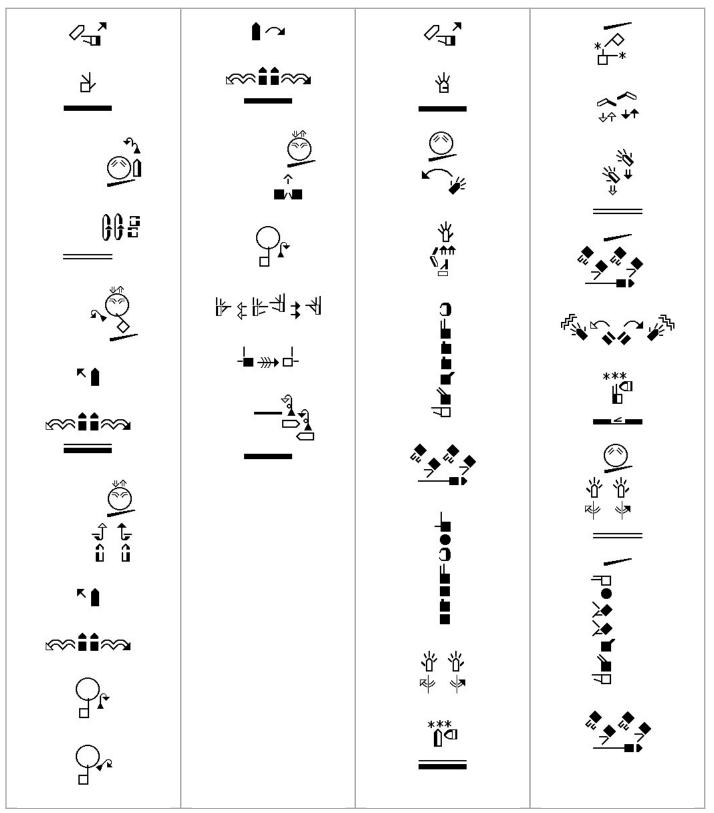
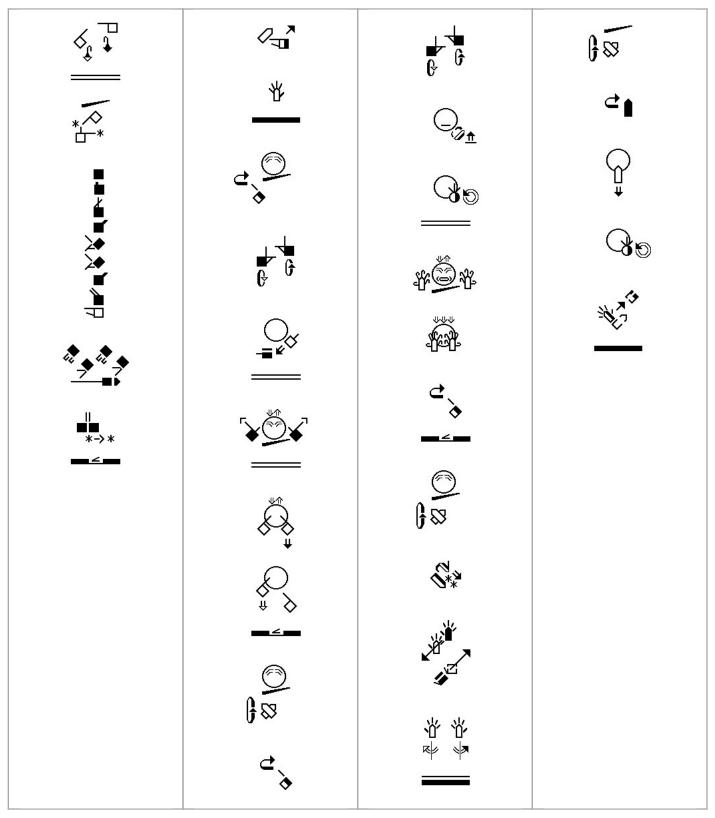


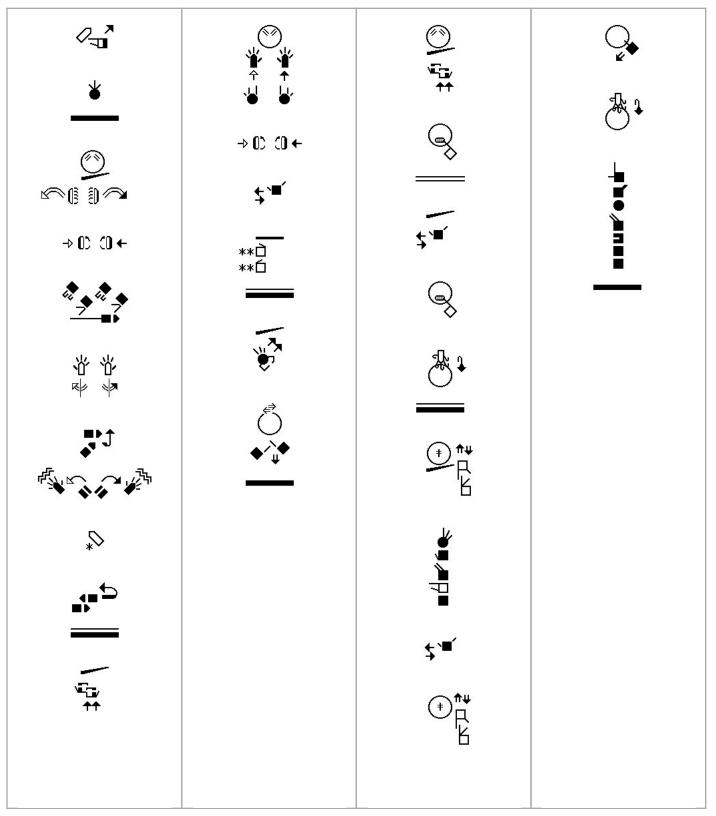
Joel Chapter One. The LORD gave this message to Joel son of Pethuel. Verse 2. Hear this, you leaders of the people. Listen, all who live in the land. In all your history, has anything like this happened before? NLT



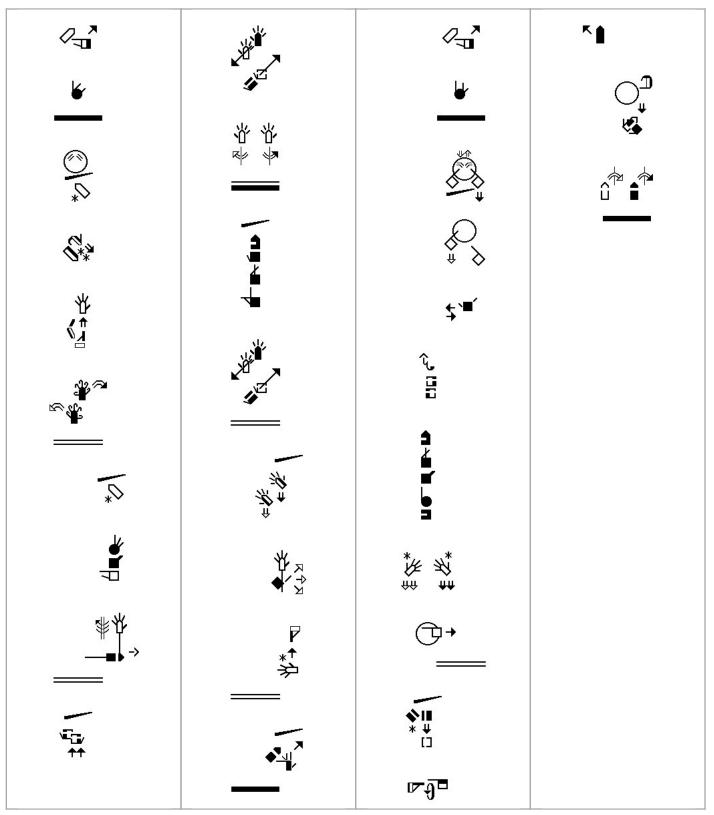
Verse 3. Tell your children about it in the years to come, and let your children tell their children. Pass the story down from generation to generation. Verse 4. After the cutting locusts finished eating the crops, the swarming locusts took what was left! After them came the hopping locusts, NLT



and then the stripping locusts, too! Verse 5. Wake up, you drunkards, and weep! Wail, all you wine-drinkers! All the grapes are ruined, and all your sweet wine is gone. NLT

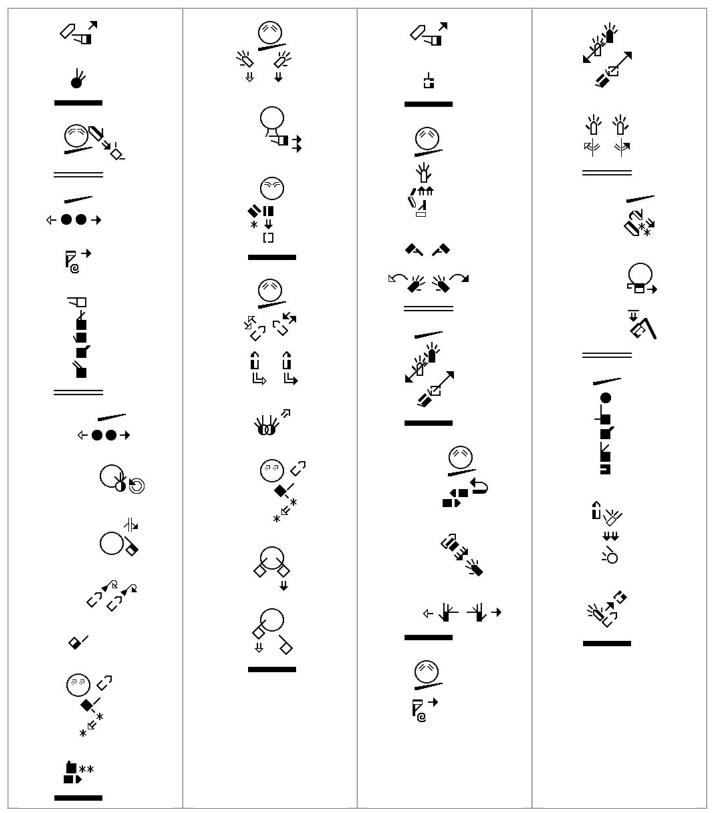


Verse 6. A vast army of locusts has invaded my land, a terrible army too numerous to count. Its teeth are like lions' teeth, its fangs like those of a lioness. NLT



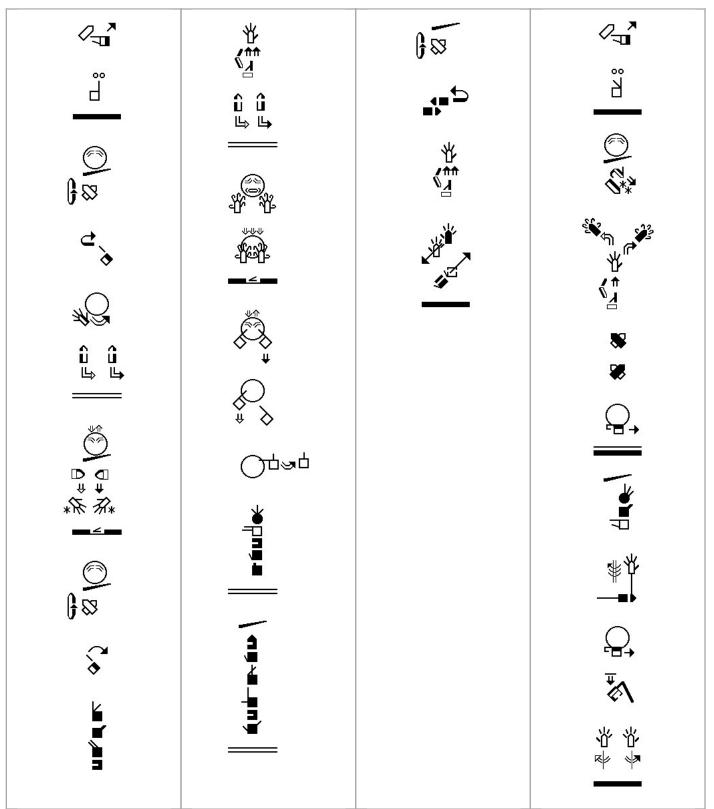
Verse 7. It has destroyed my grapevines and ruined my fig trees, stripping their bark and destroying it, leaving the branches white and bare. Verse 8. Weep like a bride dressed in black, mourning the death of her husband.

Joel 1 in ASL

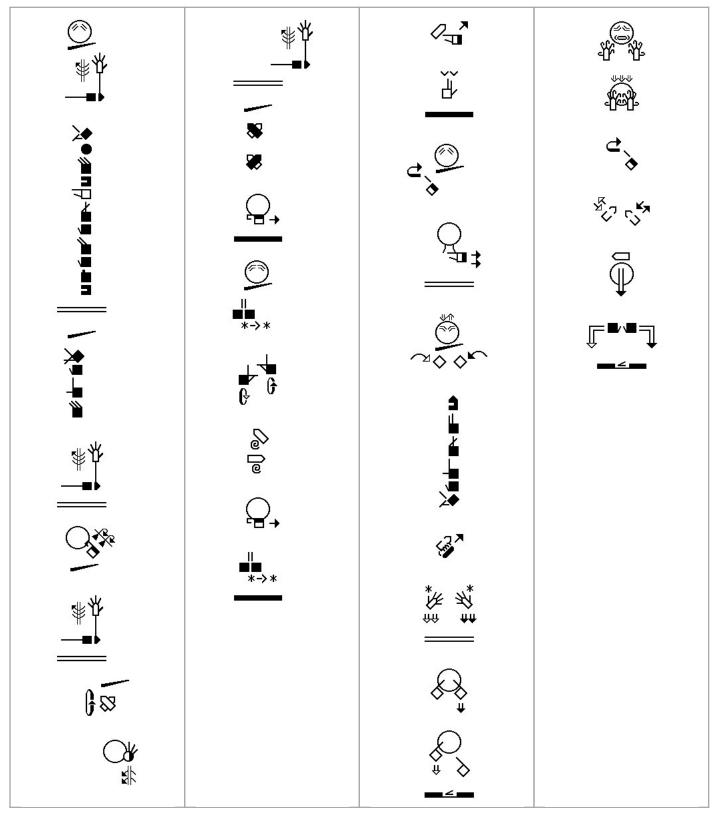


Verse 9. For there is no grain or wine to offer at the Temple of the LORD. So the priests are in mourning. The ministers of the LORD are weeping. Verse 10. The fields are ruined, the land is stripped bare. The grain is destroyed, the grapes have shriveled, and the olive oil is gone.

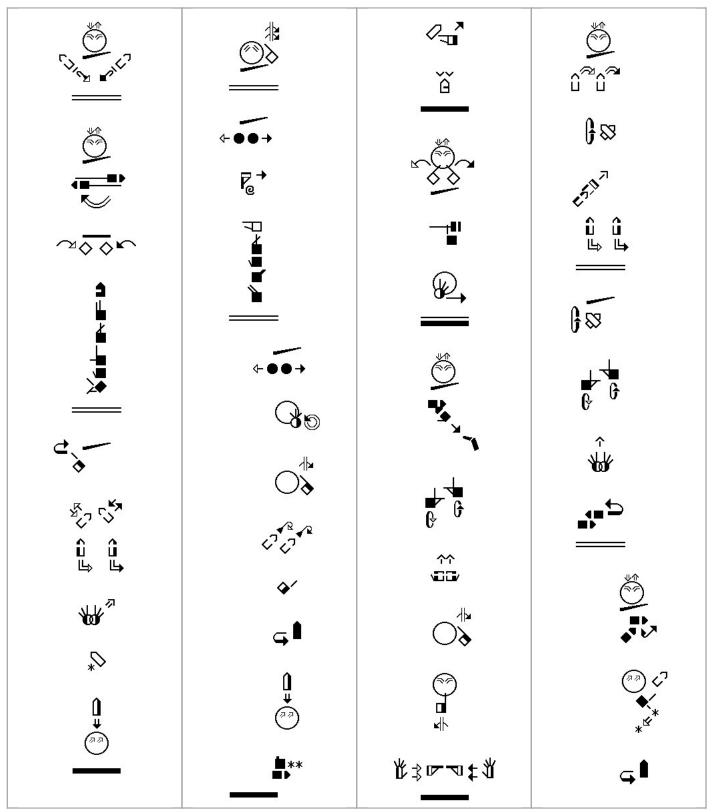
Joel 1 in ASL



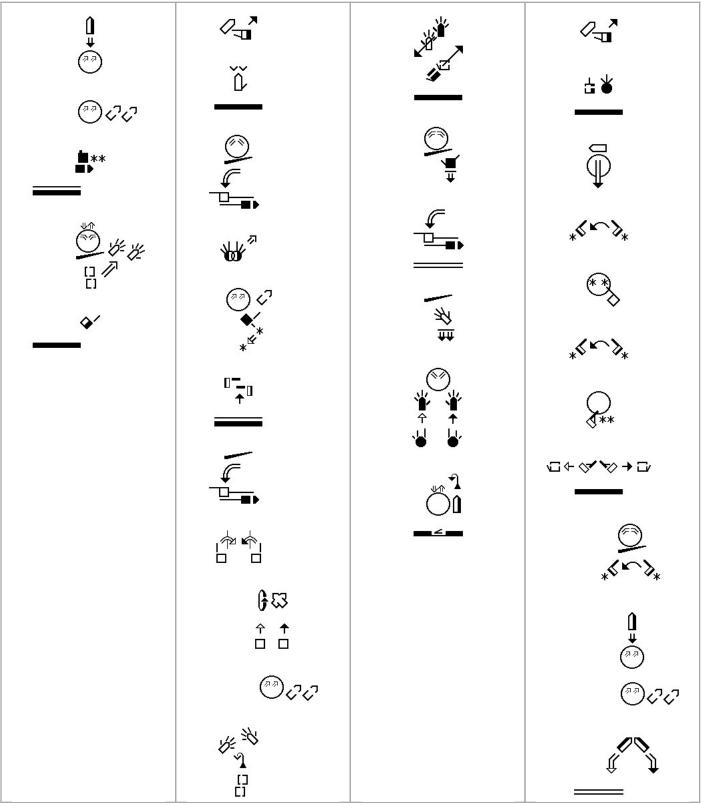
Verse 11. Despair, all you farmers! Wail, all you vine growers! Weep, because the wheat and barley -- all the crops of the field -- are ruined. Verse 12. The grapevines have dried up, and the fig trees have withered.



The pomegranate trees, palm trees, and apple trees -- all the fruit trees -- have dried up. And the people's joy has dried up with them. Verse 13. Dress yourselves in burlap and weep, you priests! Wail, you who serve before the altar! NLT

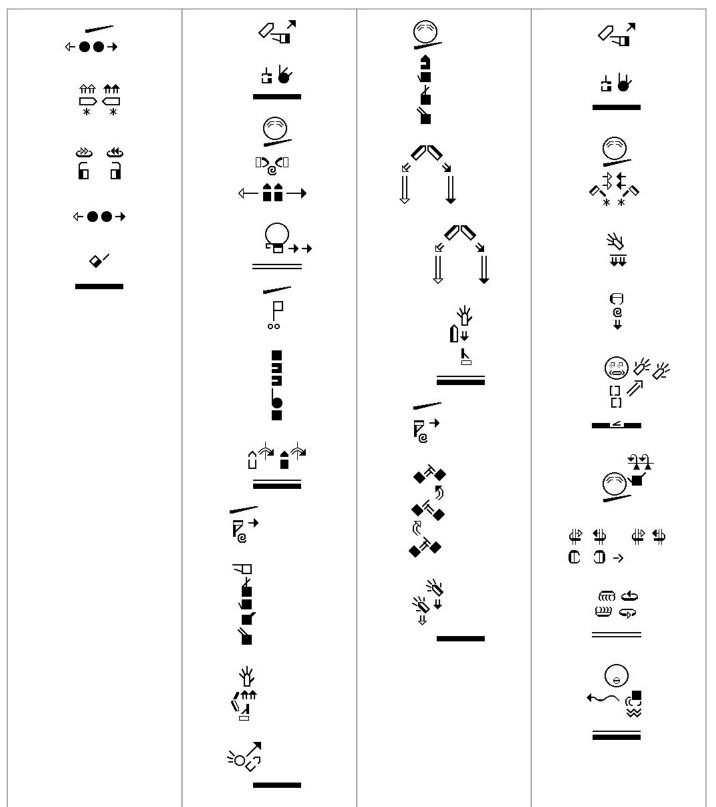


Come, spend the night in burlap, you ministers of my God. For there is no grain or wine to offer at the Temple of your God. Verse 14. Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Bring the leaders and all the people of the land into the Temple of the LORD your NLT

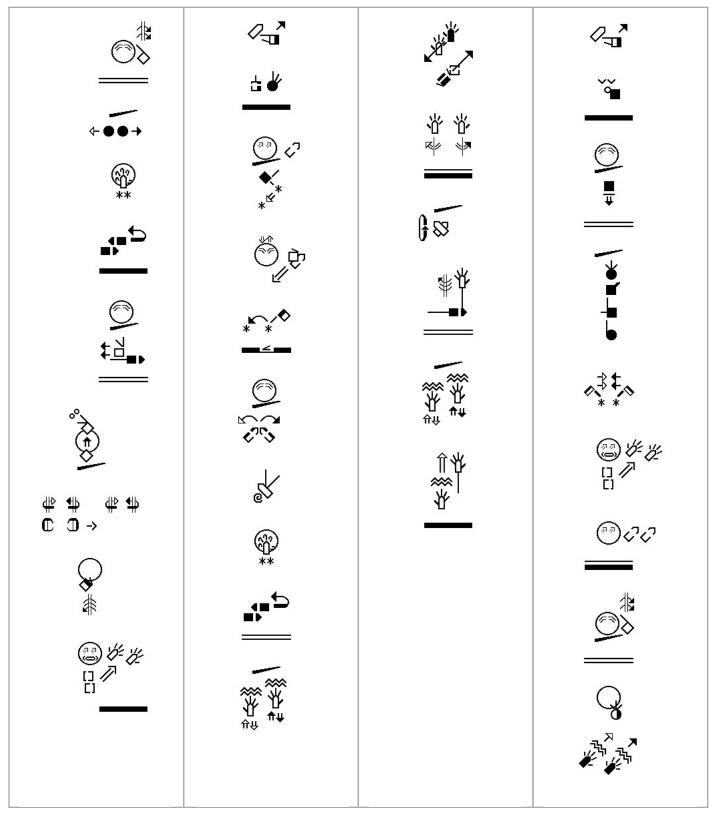


God, and cry out to him there. Verse 15. The day of the LORD is near, the day when destruction comes from the Almighty. How terrible that day will be! Verse 16. Our food disappears before our very eyes. NLT

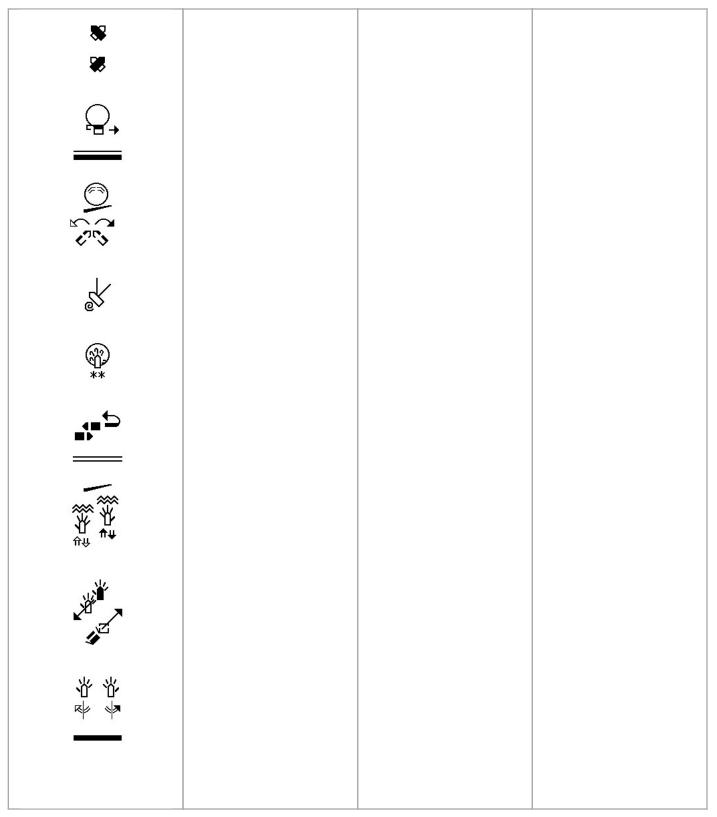
Joel 1 in ASL

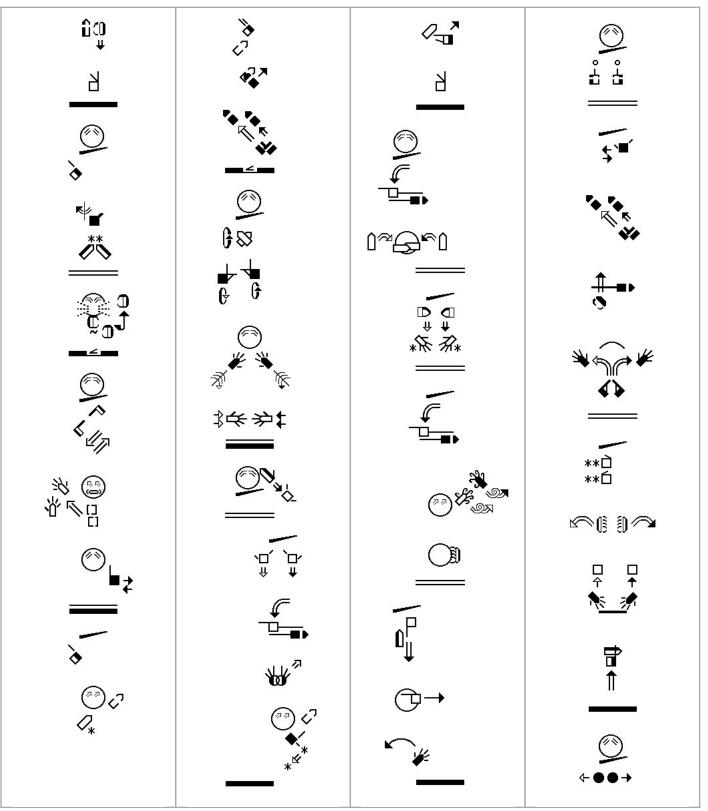


No joyful celebrations are held in the house of our God. Verse 17. The seeds die in the parched ground, and the grain crops fail. The barns stand empty, and granaries are abandoned. Verse 18. How the animals moan with huger! The herds of cattle wander about confused, because they have no pasture.

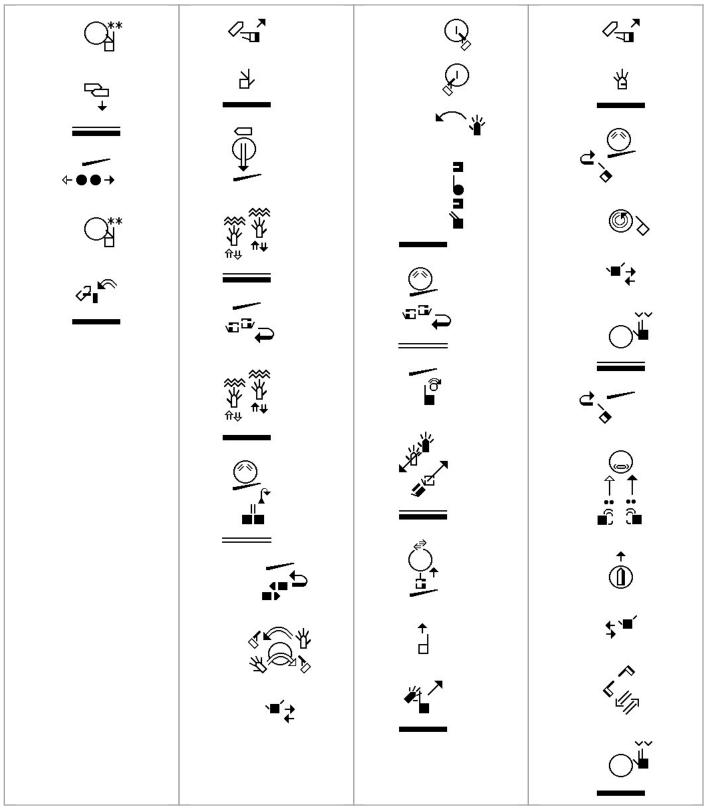


The flocks of sheep and goats bleat in misery. Verse 19. LORD, help us! The fire has consumed the wilderness pastures, and flames have burned up all the trees. Verse 20. Even the wild animals cry out to you because the streams NLT



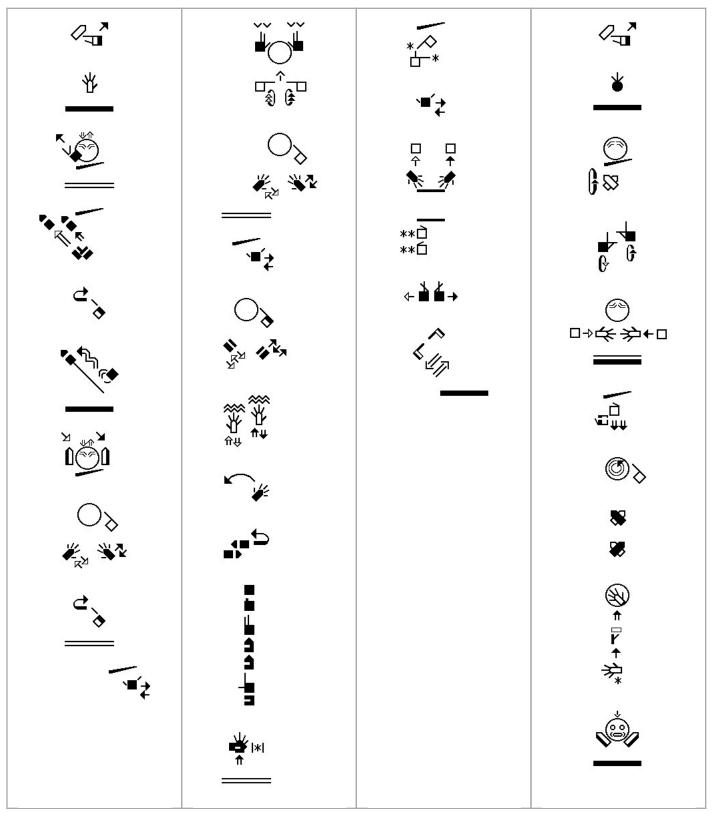


Chapter 2. Sound the alarm in Jerusalem! Raise the battle cry on my holy mountain! Let everyone tremble in fear because the day of the LORD is upon us. Verse 2. It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness. Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains, a great and mighty army appears. Nothing NLT

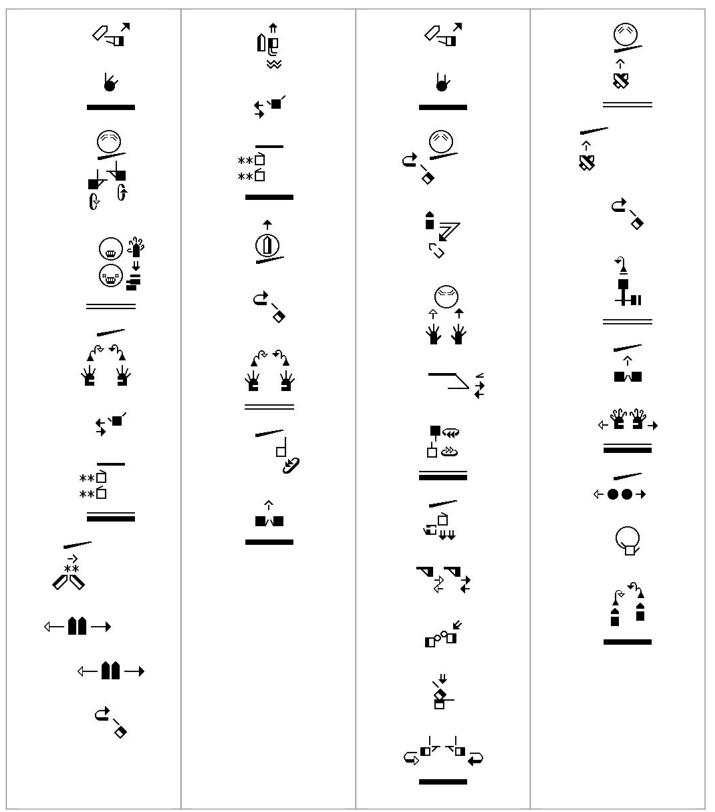


like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again. Verse 3. Fire burns in front of them, and flames follow after them. Ahead of them the land lies as beautiful as the Garden of Eden. Behind them is nothing but desolation; not one thing escapes. Verse 4. They look like horses; they charge forward like war horses. NLT

Joel 2 in ASL

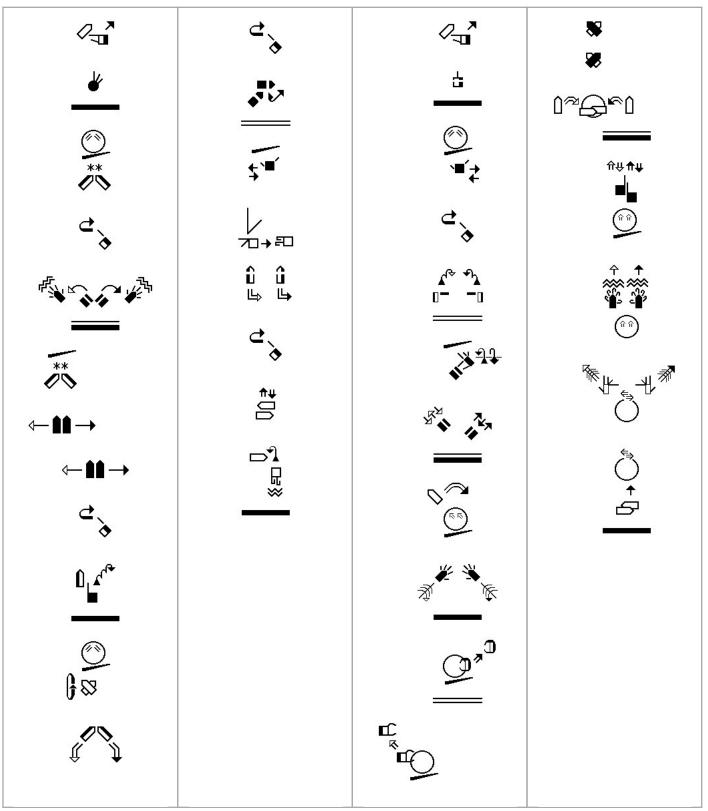


Verse 5. Look at them as they leap along the mountaintops. Listen to the noise they make -- like the rumbling of chariots, like the roar of fire sweeping across a field of stubble, or like a mighty army moving into battle. Verse 6. Fear grips all the people; every face grows pale with terror.



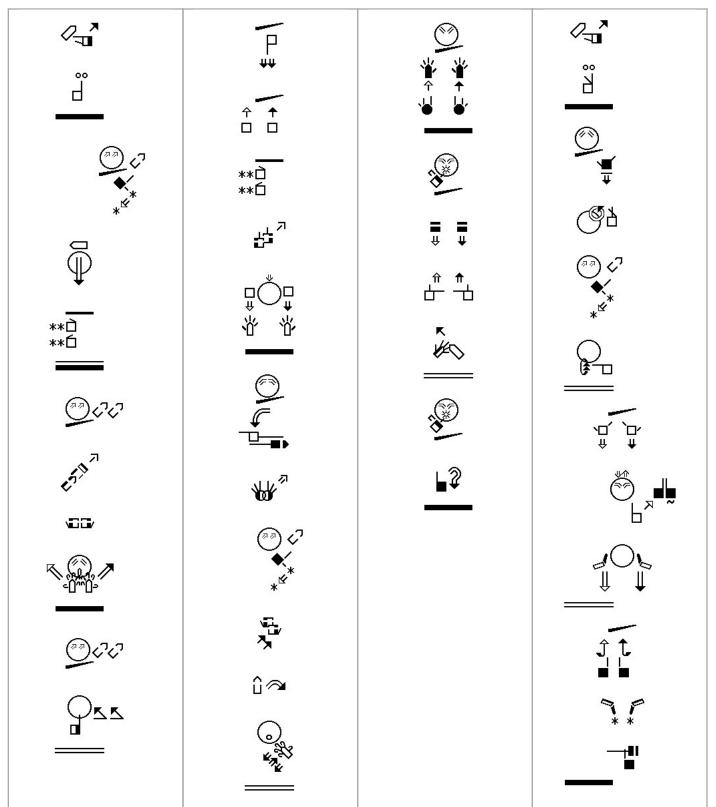
Verse 7. The attackers march like warriors and scale city walls like soldiers. Straight forward they march, never breaking rank. Verse 8. They never jostle each other; each moves in exactly the right position. They break through defenses without missing a step. NLT

Joel 2 in ASL



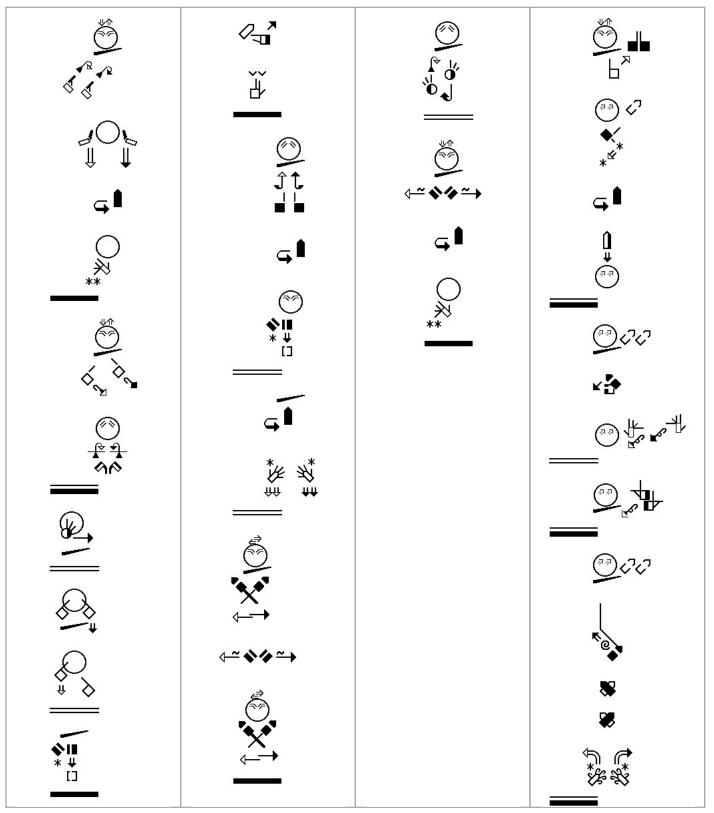
Verse 9. They swarm over the city and run along its walls. They enter all the houses, climbing like thieves through the windows. Verse 10. The earth quakes as they advance, and the heavens tremble. The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars no longer shine. NLT

Joel 2 in ASL



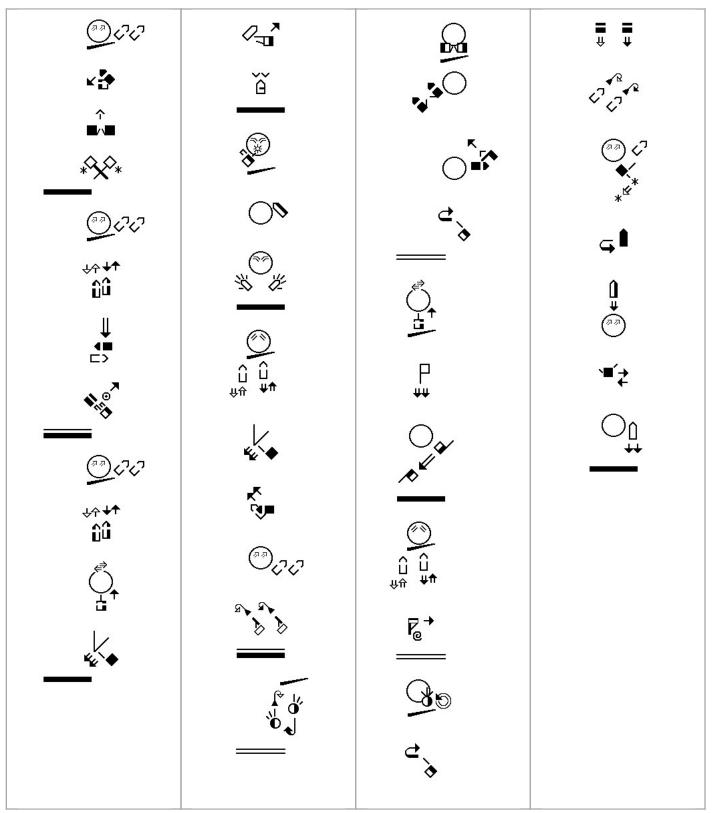
19 Verse 11. The LORD is at the head of the column. He leads them with a shout. This is his mighty army, and they follow his orders. The day of the LORD is an awesome, terrible thing. Who can possibly survive? Verse 12. That is why the LORD says, "Turn to me now, while there is time.

Joel 2 in ASL

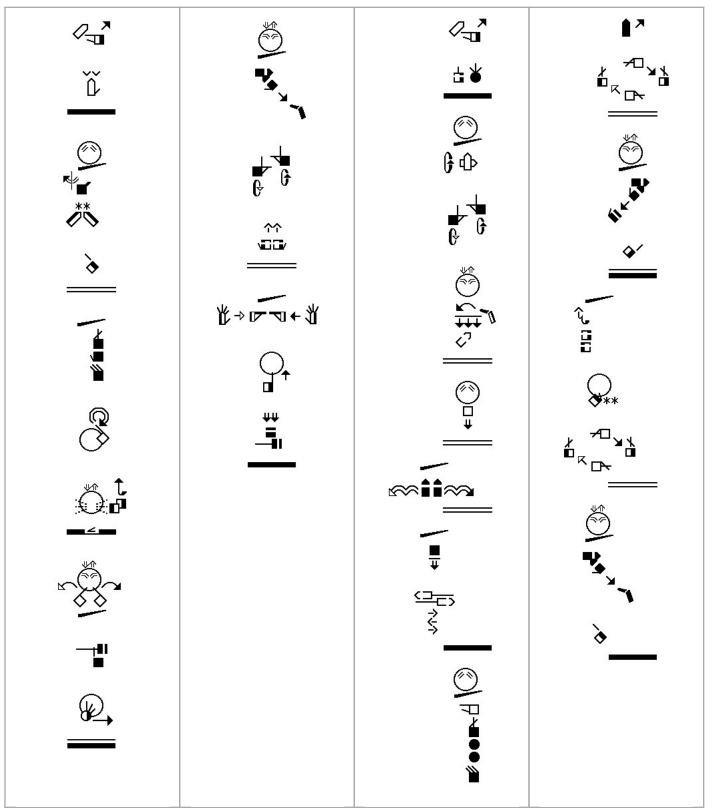


Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning.Verse 13. Don't tearyour clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead."Return to the LORD your God,20for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angryNLT

Joel 2 in ASL

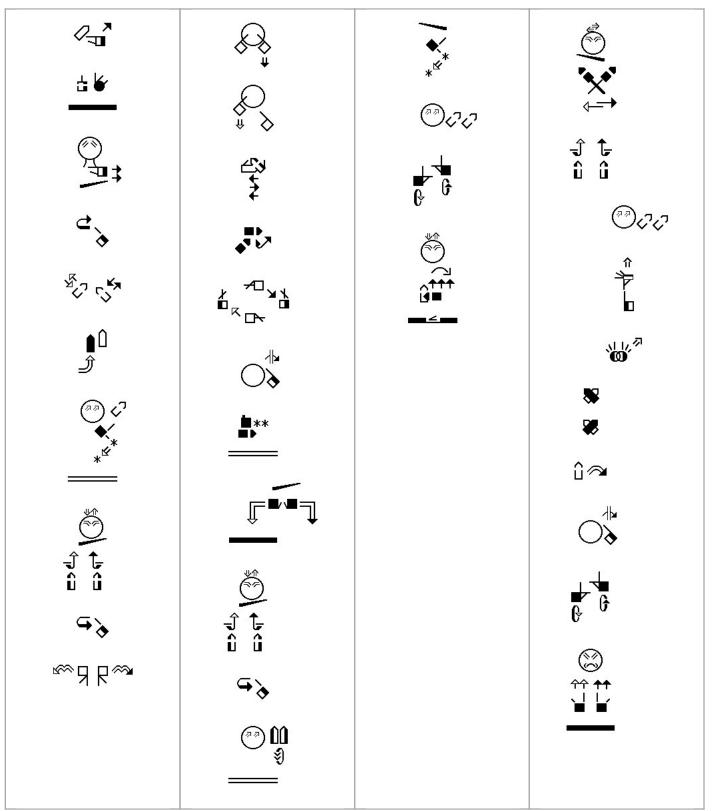


and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish. Verse 14. Who
knows? Perhaps he will give you a reprieve, sending you a blessing instead of this curse. Perhaps you will be able to offer grain and wine to the LORD your God as before. NLT

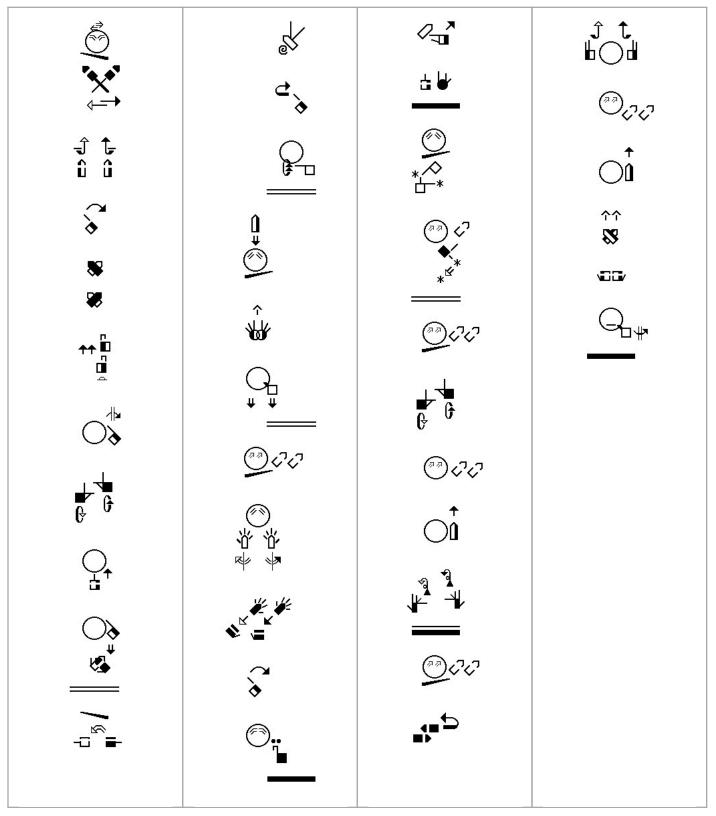


Verse 15. Blow the ram's horn in Jerusalem! Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Verse 16. Gather all the people -- the elders, the children, and even the babies. Call the bridegroom from his quarters and the bride from her private room.

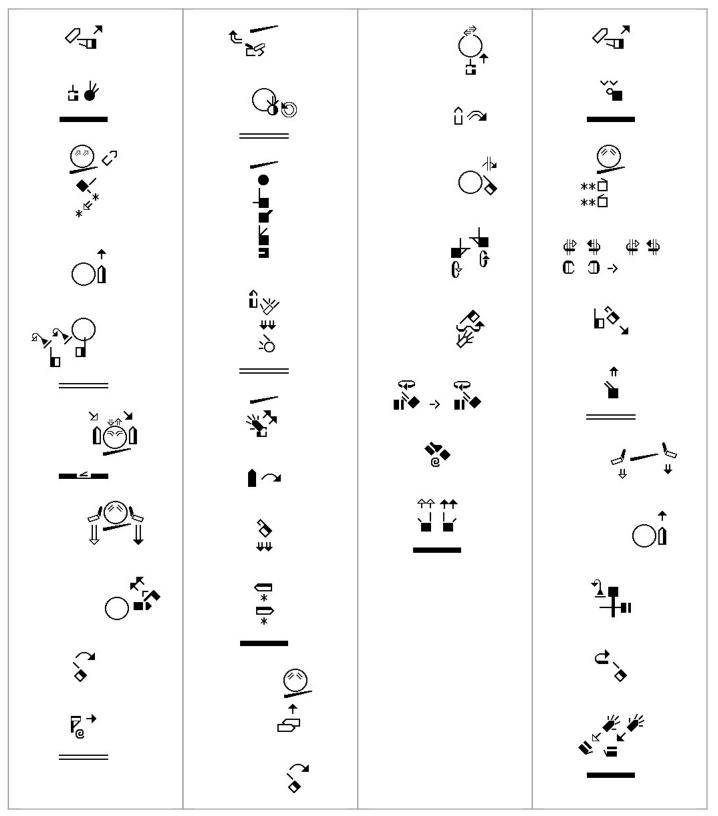
Joel 2 in ASL



Verse 17. Let the priests, who minister in the LORD'S presence, stand and weep
between the entry room to the Temple and the altar. Let them pray, "Spare your people, LORD! Don't let your special possession become an object of mockery. NLT

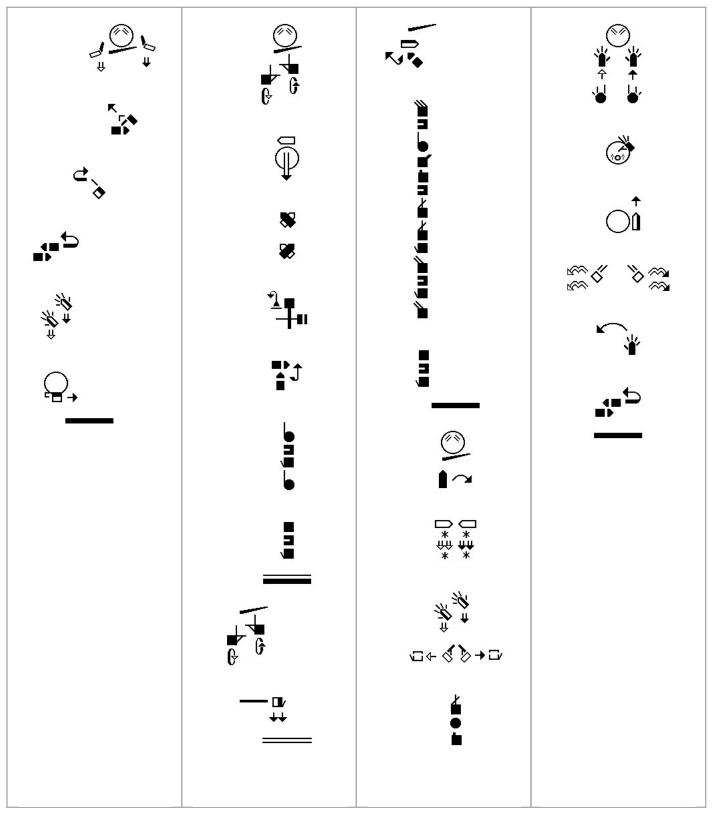


Don't let them become a joke for unbelieving foreigners who say, 'Has the God of Israel left them?'" Verse 18. Then the LORD will pity his people and jealously guard the honor of his land.



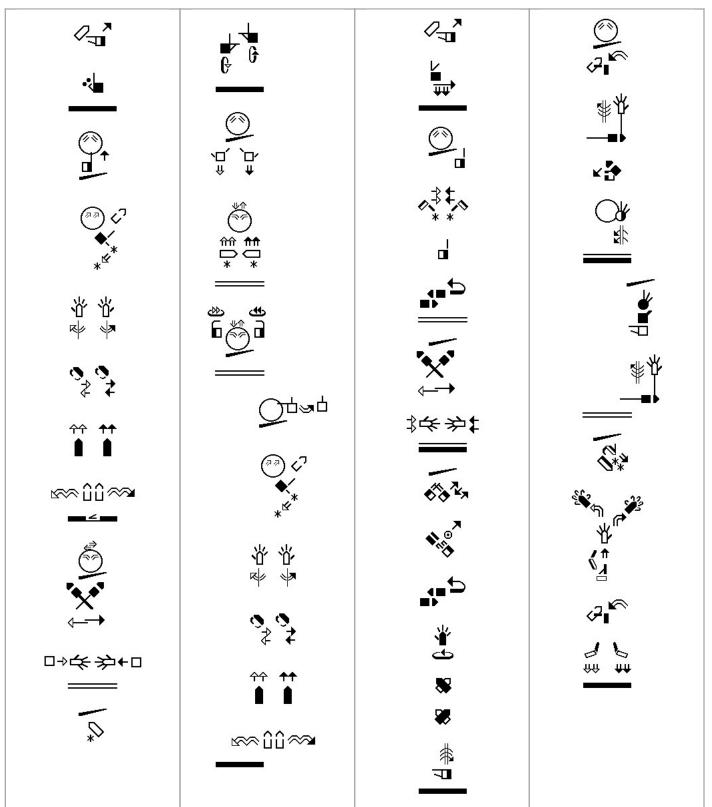
Verse 19. The LORD will reply, "Look! I am sending you grain and new wine and olive oil,
enough to satisfy your needs. You will no longer be an object of mockery among the surrounding nations. Verse 20. I will drive away these armies from the north. NLT

Joel 2 in ASL

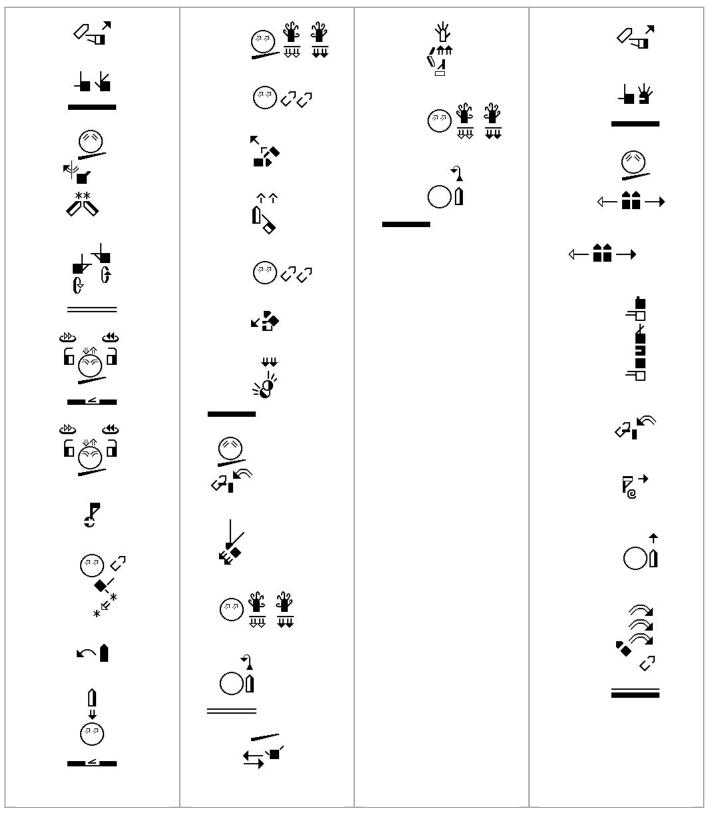


I will send them into the parched wastelands. Those in the front will be driven into the Dead Sea, and those at the rear into the Mediterranean. The stench of their rotting bodies will rise over the land."

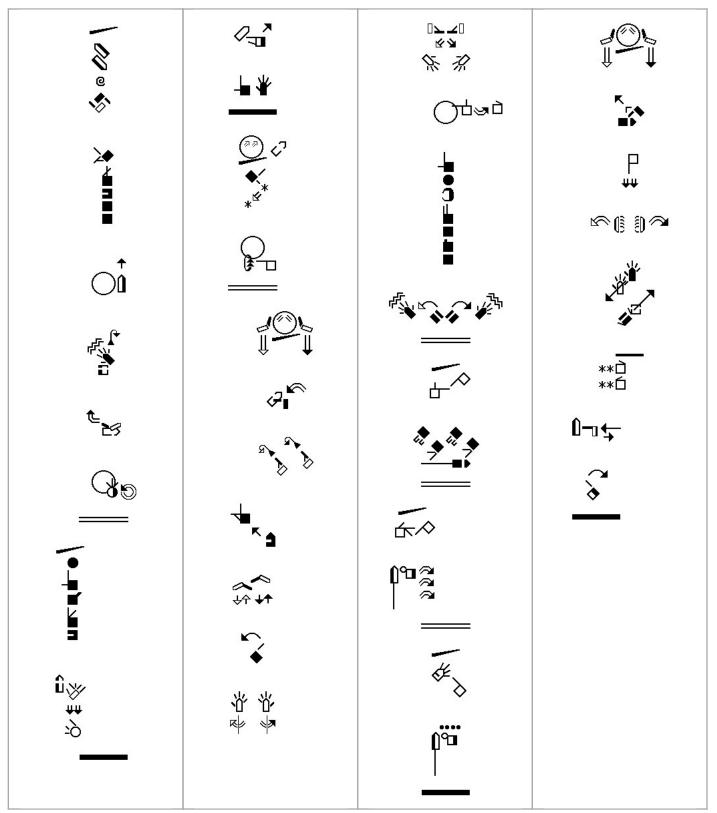
Joel 2 in ASL



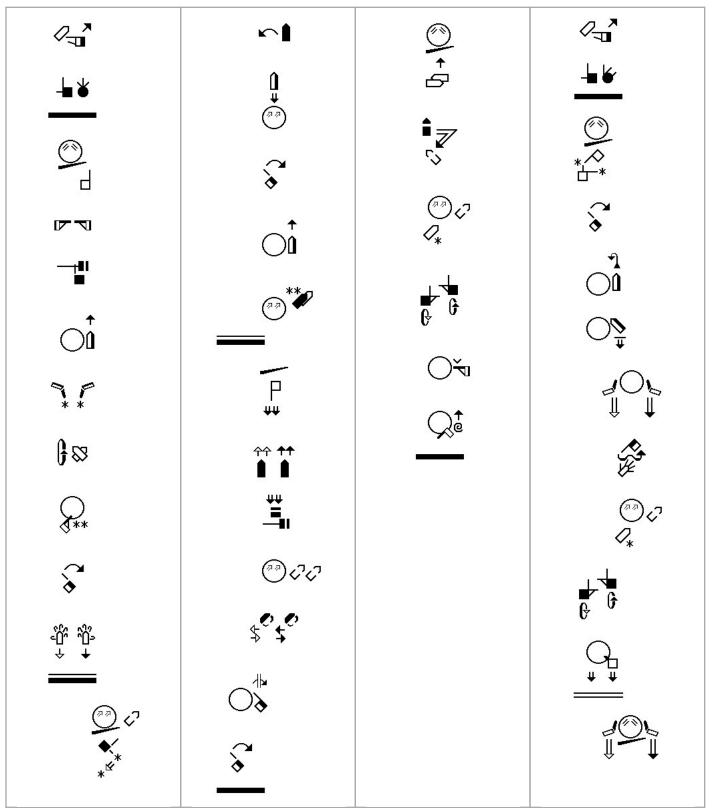
Verse 21. Surely the LORD has done great things! Don't be afraid, my people. Be glad now and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things. Verse 22. Don't be afraid, you animals of the field, for the wilderness pastures will soon be green. The trees will again be filled with fruit; fig trees and grapevines will be loaded down once more. NLT



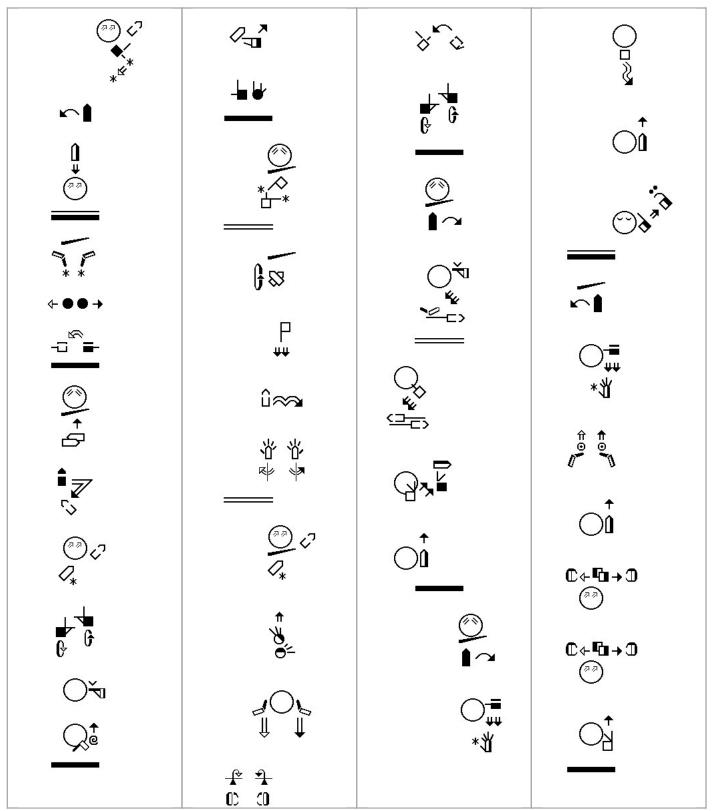
Verse 23. Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the LORD your God! For the rain he sends demonstrates his faithfulness. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring. Verse 24. The threshing floors will again be piled high with grain, NLT



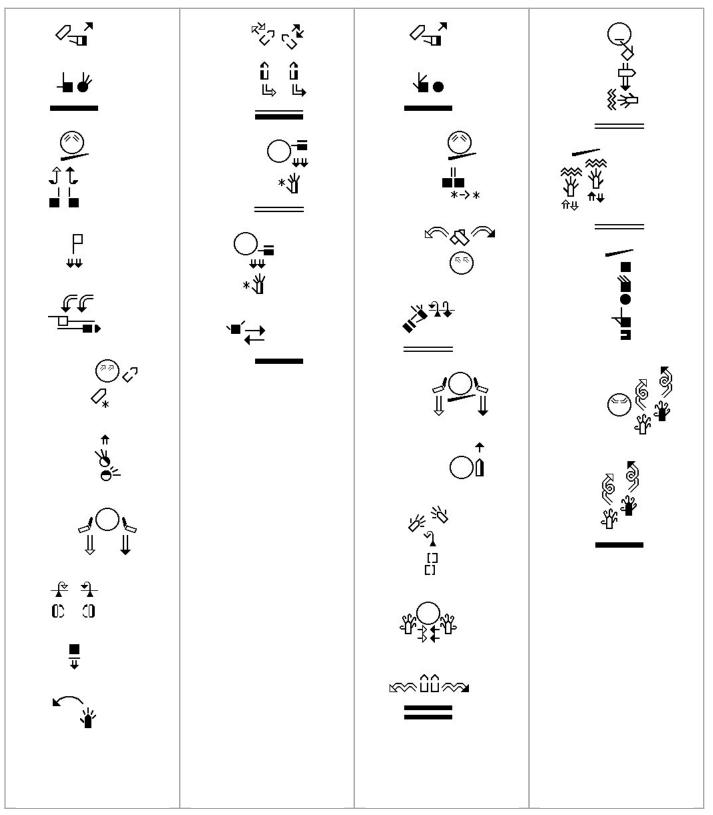
and the presses will overflow with new wine and olive oil. Verse 25. The LORD says, "I will give you back what you lost to the swarming locusts, the hopping locusts, the stripping locusts, and the cutting locusts. It was I who sent this great destroying army against you. NLT



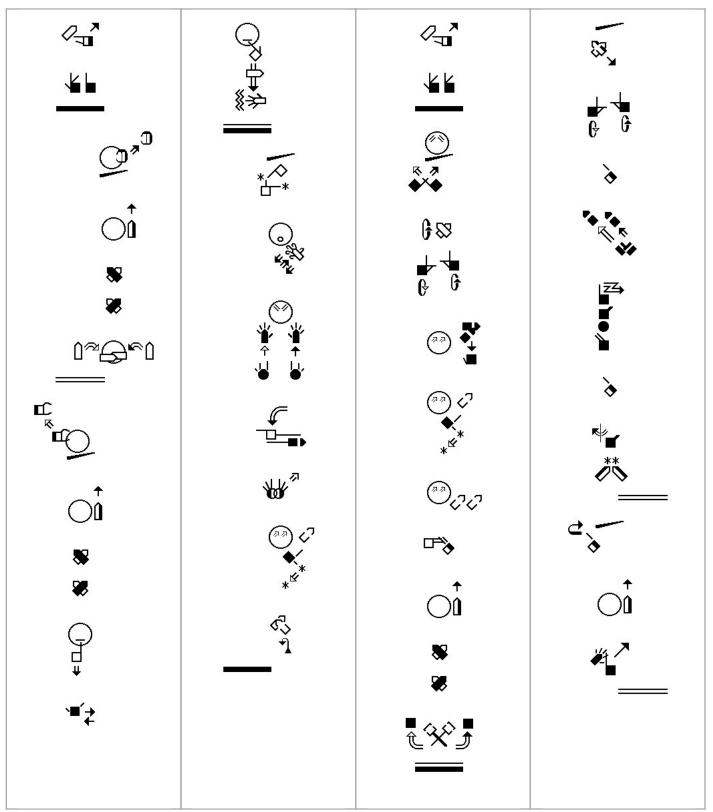
Verse 26. Once again you will have all the food you want, and you will praise the LORD your God, who does these miracles for you. Never again will my people be disgraced. Verse 27. Then you will know that I am among my people Israel, that I am NLT



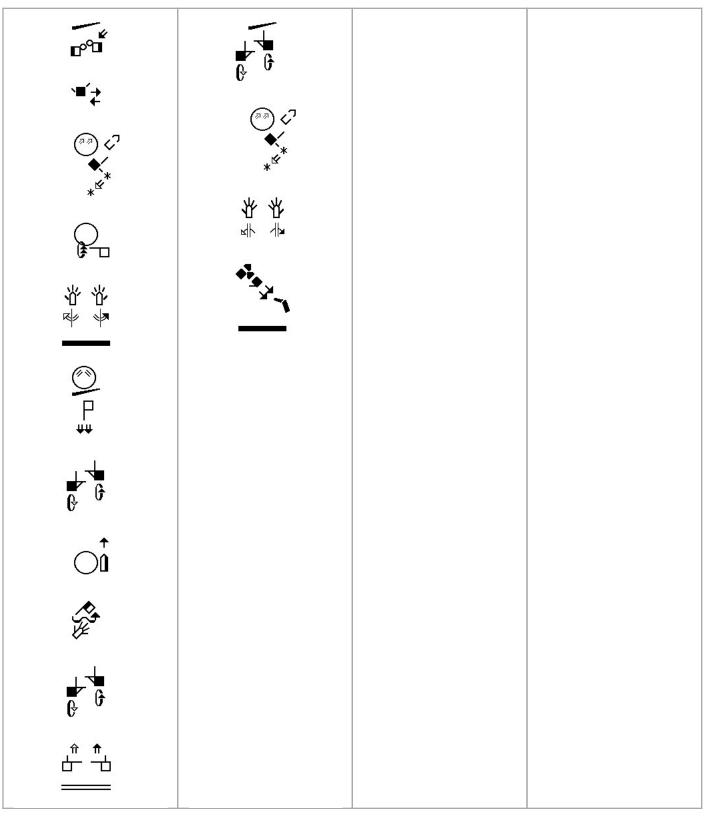
the LORD your God, and there is no other. Never again will my people be disgraced. Verse 28. "Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. NLT



Verse 29. In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants -- men and women<br/>alike. Verse 30. And I will cause wonders in the heavens and on the earth -- blood and<br/>fire and columns of smoke.32

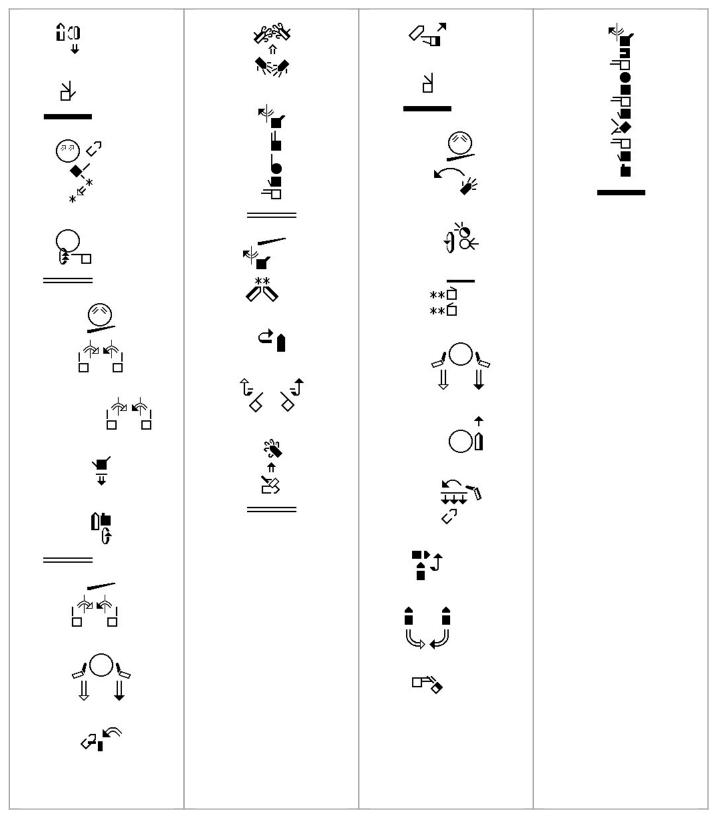


Verse 31. The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great
and terrible day of the LORD arrives. Verse 32. But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved, for some on Mount Zion in Jerusalem will escape, NLT

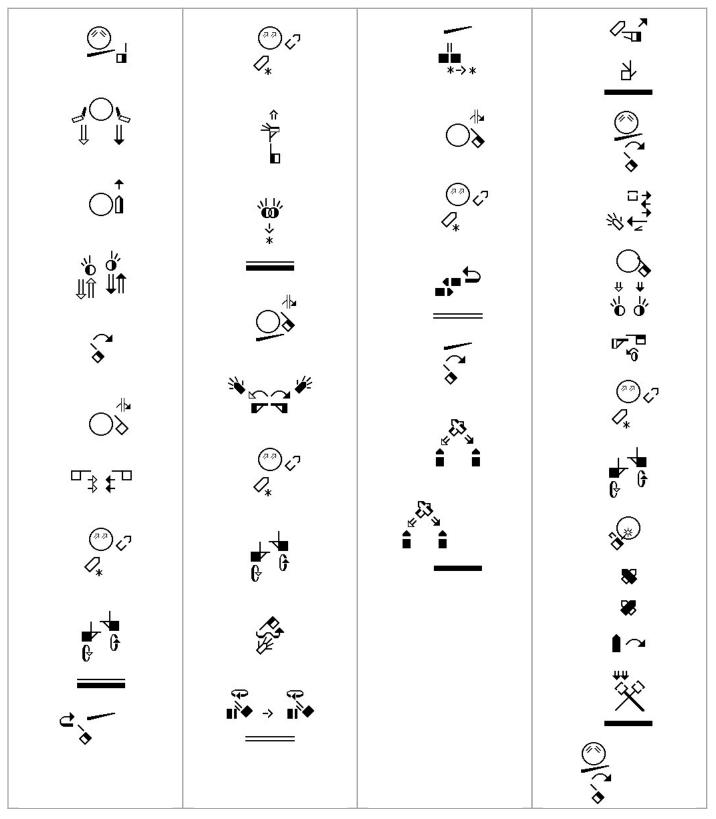


just as the LORD has said. These will be among the survivors whom the LORD has called. NLT 34

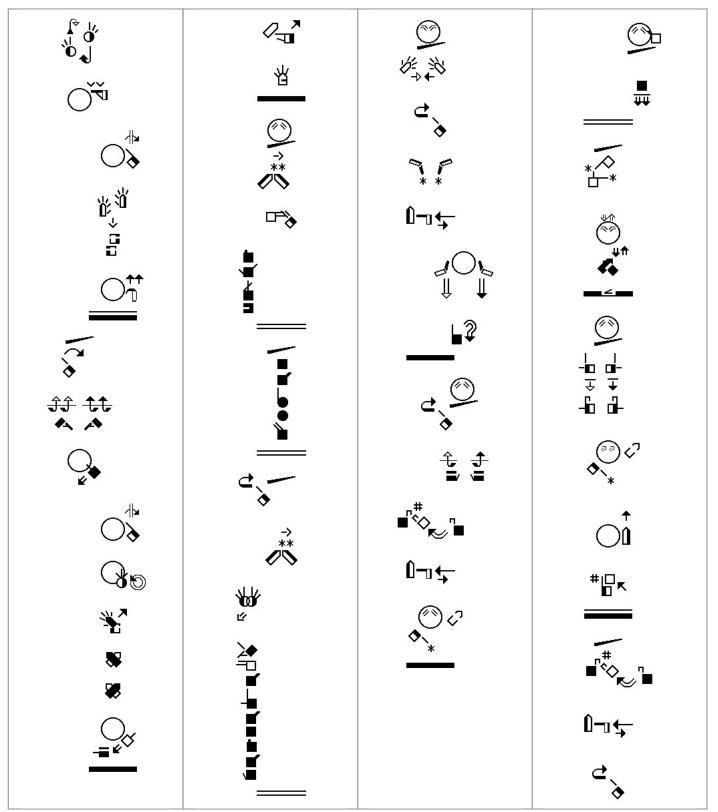
Joel 3 in ASL



Chapter 3. "At the time of those events," says the LORD, "when I restore the prosperity of
Judah and Jerusalem, Verse 2. I will gather the armies of the world into the valley of Jehoshaphat.

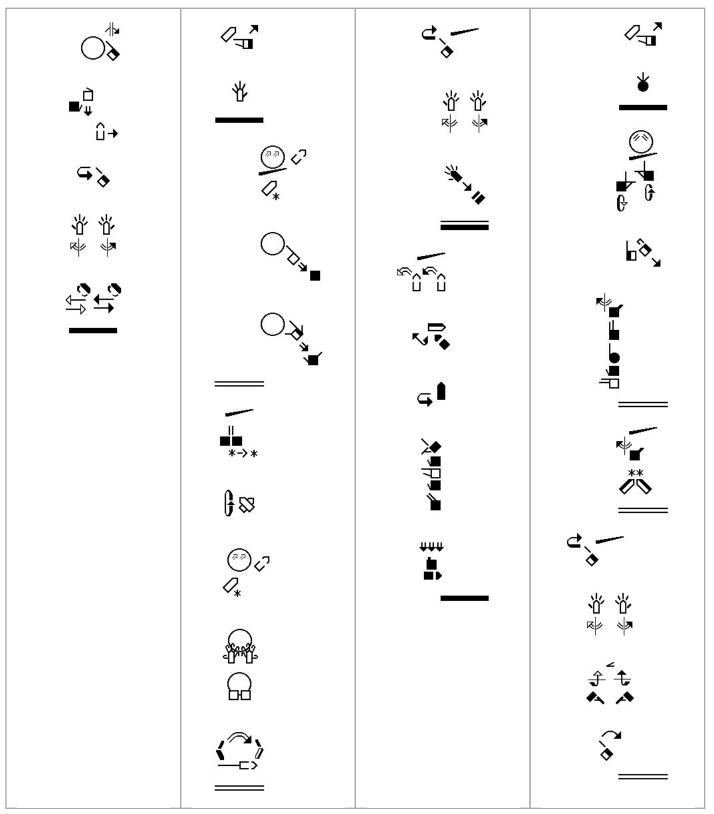


There I will judge them for harming my people, my special possession, for scattering my people among the nations, and for dividing up my land. Verse 3. They cast lots to decide which of my people would be their slaves. They NLT



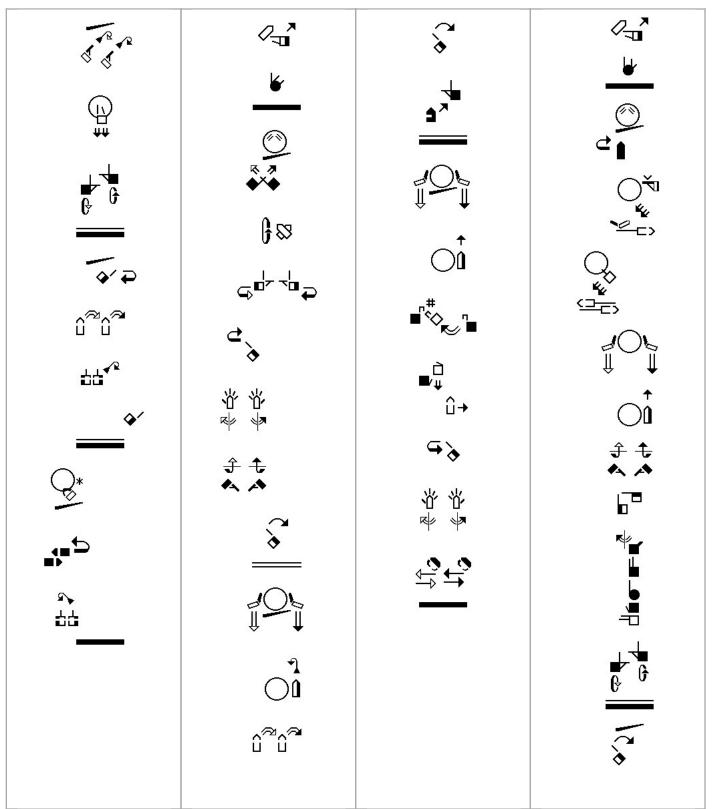
traded boys to obtain prostitutes and sold girls for enough wine to get drunk. Verse 4. "What do you have against me, Tyre and Sidon and you cities of Philistia? Are you trying to take revenge on me? If you are, then watch out! I will strike swiftly and pay you back NLT

37

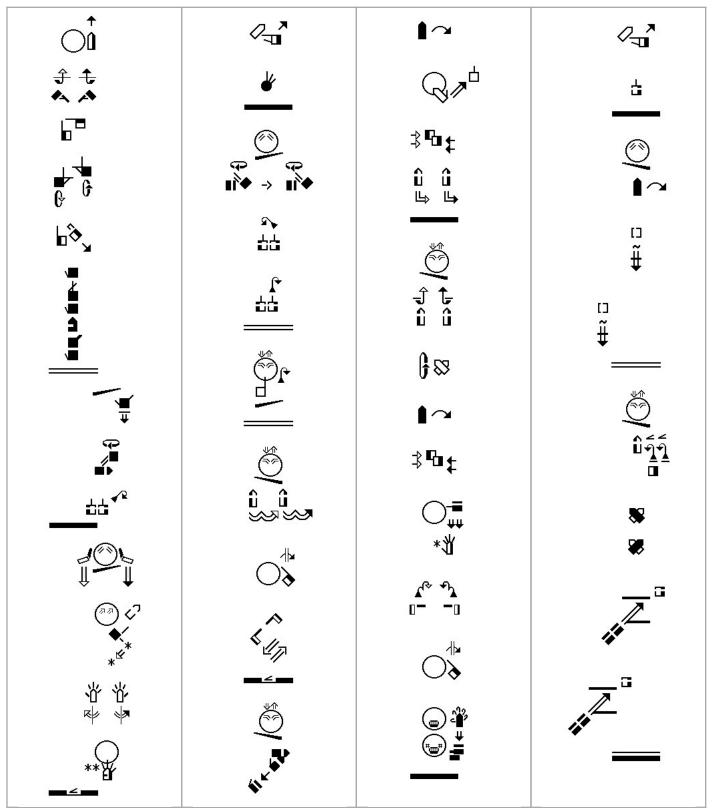


for everything you have done. Verse 5. You have taken my silver and gold and all my precious treasures, and have carried them off to your pagan temples. Verse 6. You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, NLT

38

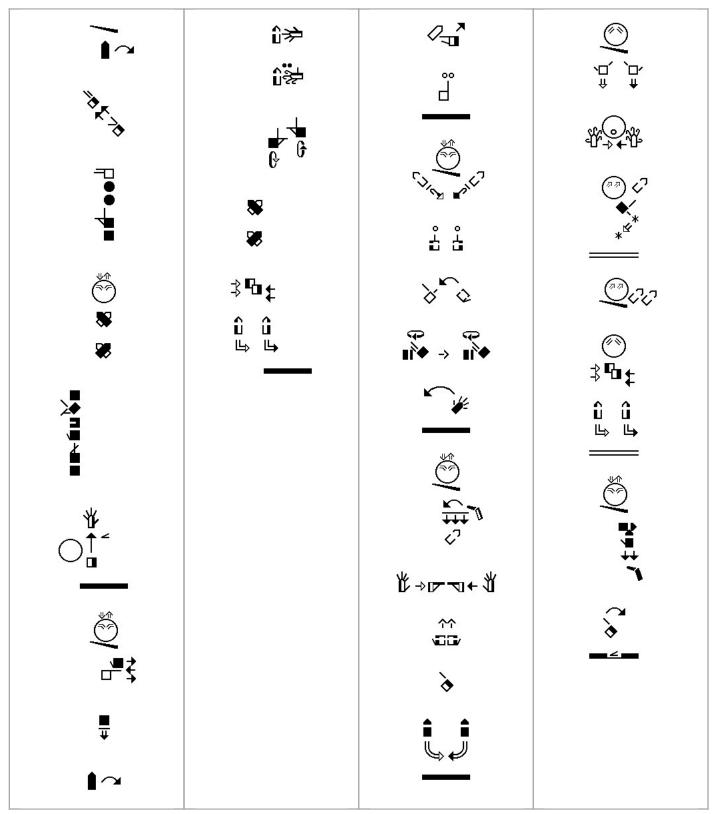


so they could take them far from their homeland. Verse 7. "But I will bring them back
from all the places to which you sold them, and I will pay you back for everything you have done. Verse 8. I will sell your sons and daughters to the people of Judah, and they NLT



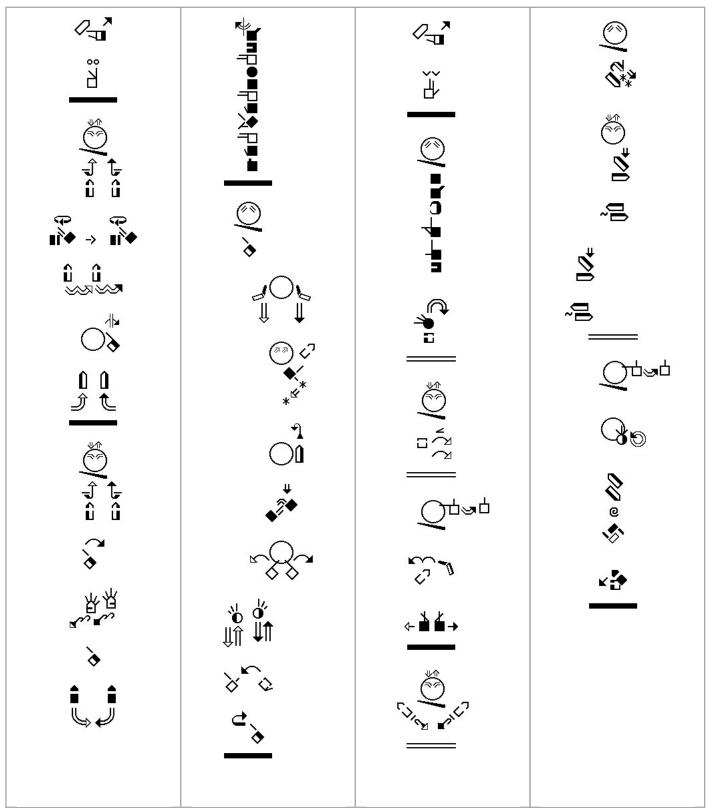
will sell them to the people of Arabia, a nation far away. I, the LORD, have spoken!" Verse 9. Say to the nations far and wide: "Get ready for war! Call out your best warriors. Let all your fighting men advance for the attack. Verse 10. Hammer your plowshares into swords NLT

40

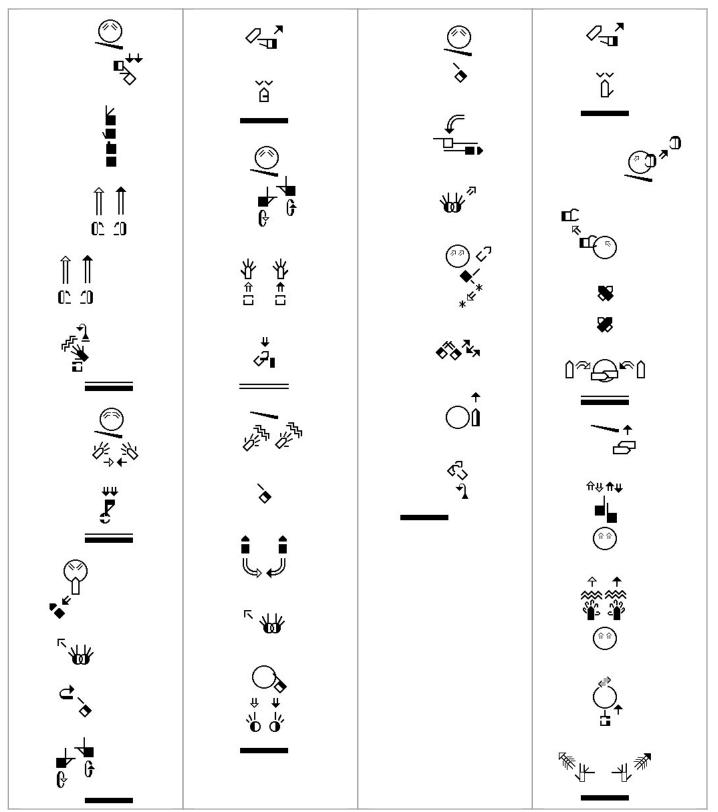


and your pruning hooks into spears. Train even your weaklings to be warriors. Verse
41 11. Come quickly, all you nations everywhere. Gather together in the valley." And now, O LORD, call out your warriors!

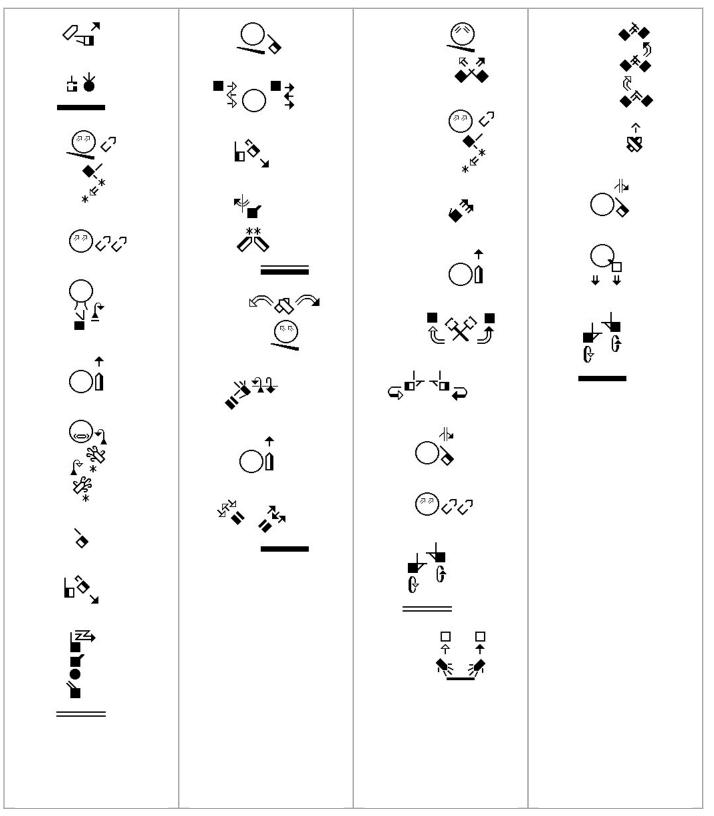
Joel 3 in ASL



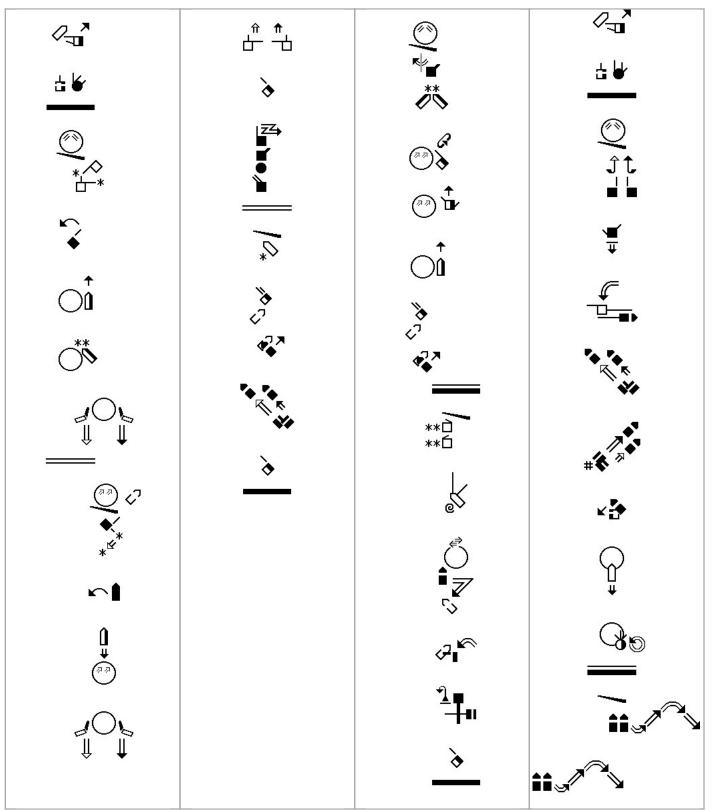
Verse 12. "Let the nations be called to arms. Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat. There I, the LORD, will sit to pronounce judgment on them all. Verse 13. Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread the grapes, for the winepress is full. NLT



The storage vats are overflowing with the wickedness of these people." Verse 14.
Thousands upon thousands are waiting in the valley of decision. There the day of the LORD will soon arrive. Verse 15. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will no longer shine.

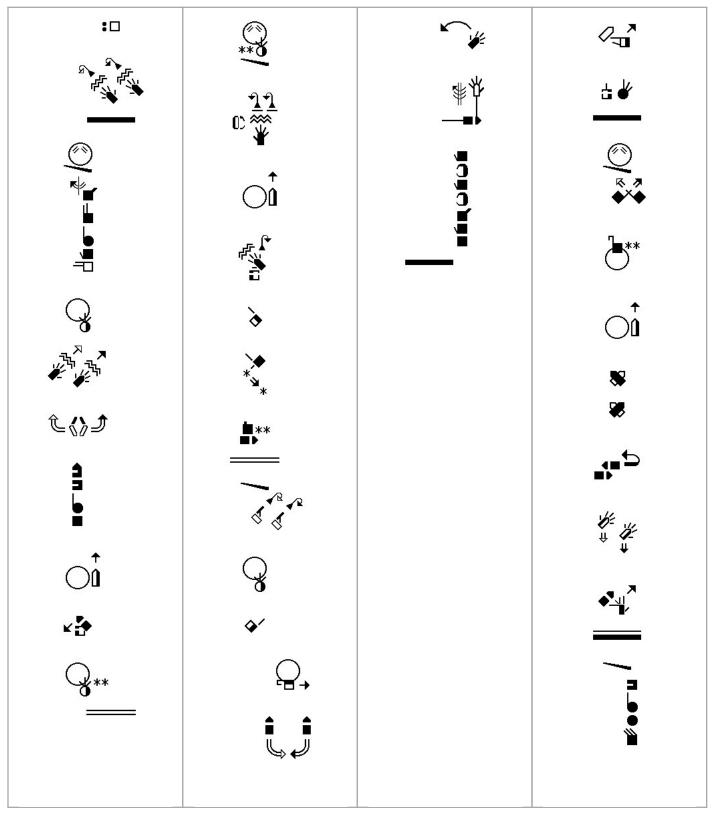


Verse 16. The LORD'S voice will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth will shake. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a strong fortress for the people of Israel.

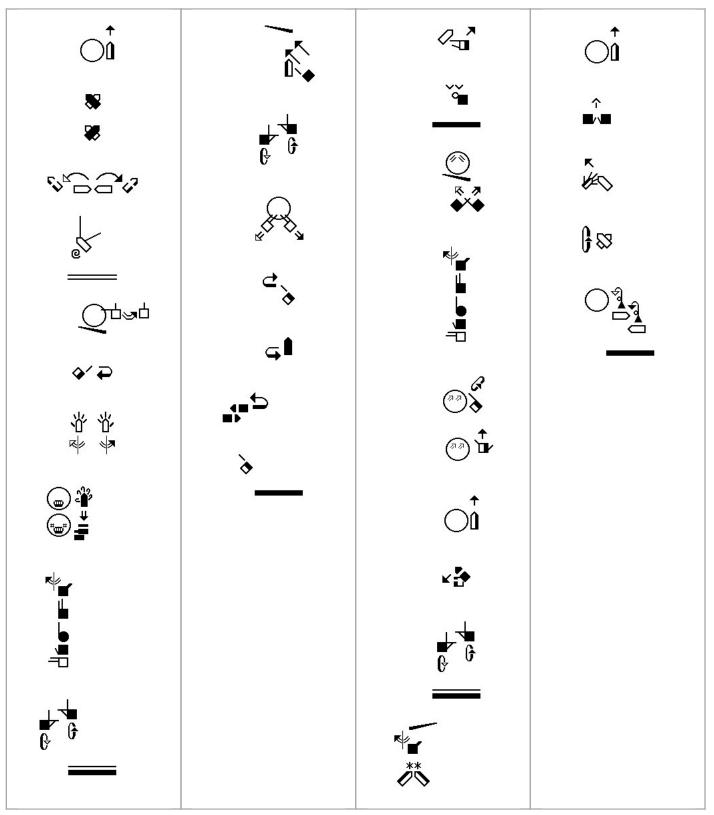


Verse 17. "Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, live in Zion, my holy mountain.
Jerusalem will be holy forever, and foreign armies will never conquer her again. Verse 18. In that day the mountains will drip with sweet wine, and the hills

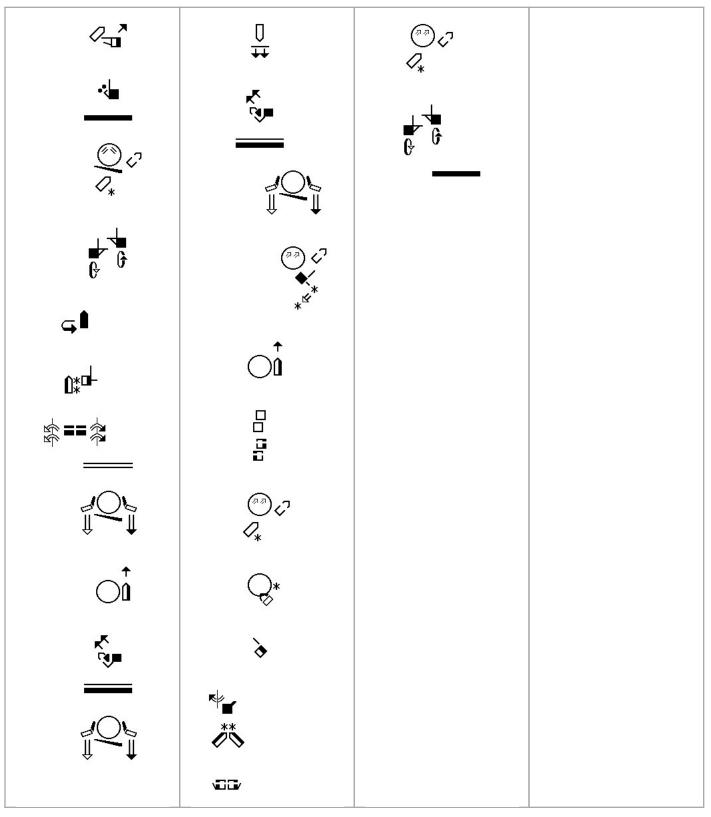
Joel 3 in ASL



will flow with milk. Water will fill the streambeds of Judah, and a fountain will burst forth from the LORD'S Temple, watering the arid valley of acacias. Verse 19. But Egypt will become a wasteland and Edom NLT



will become a wilderness, because they attacked the people of Judah and killedinnocent people in their land. Verse 20. But Judah will be filled with people forever, and Jerusalem will endure through all generations.



Verse 21. I will pardon my people's crimes, which I have not yet pardoned; and I, the LORD, will make my home in Jerusalem with my people." NLT 48