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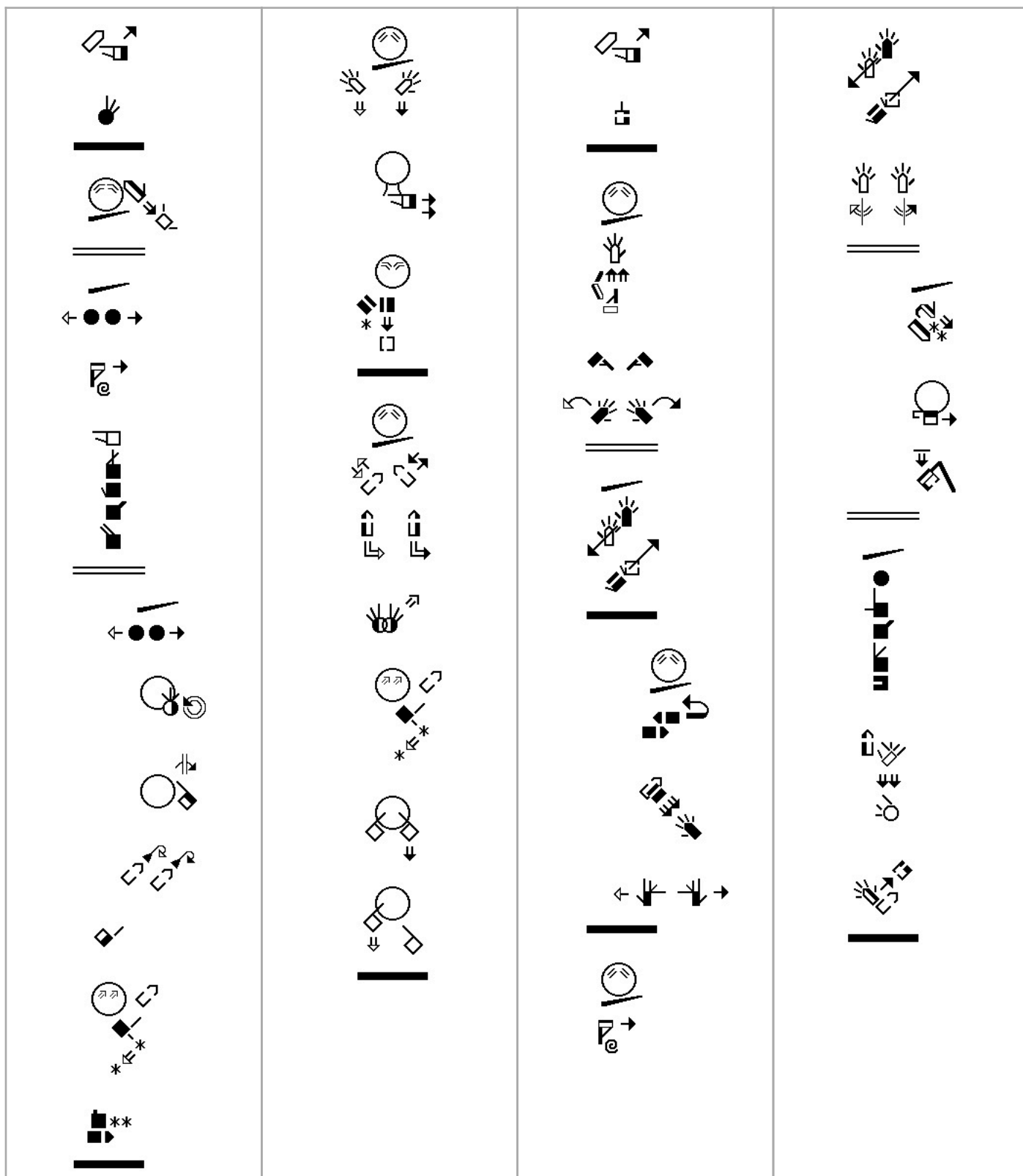
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Verse 6. A vast army of locusts has invaded my land, a terrible army too numerous to count. Its teeth are like lions' teeth, its fangs like those of a lioness. NLT

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5 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. NLT



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.

NLT

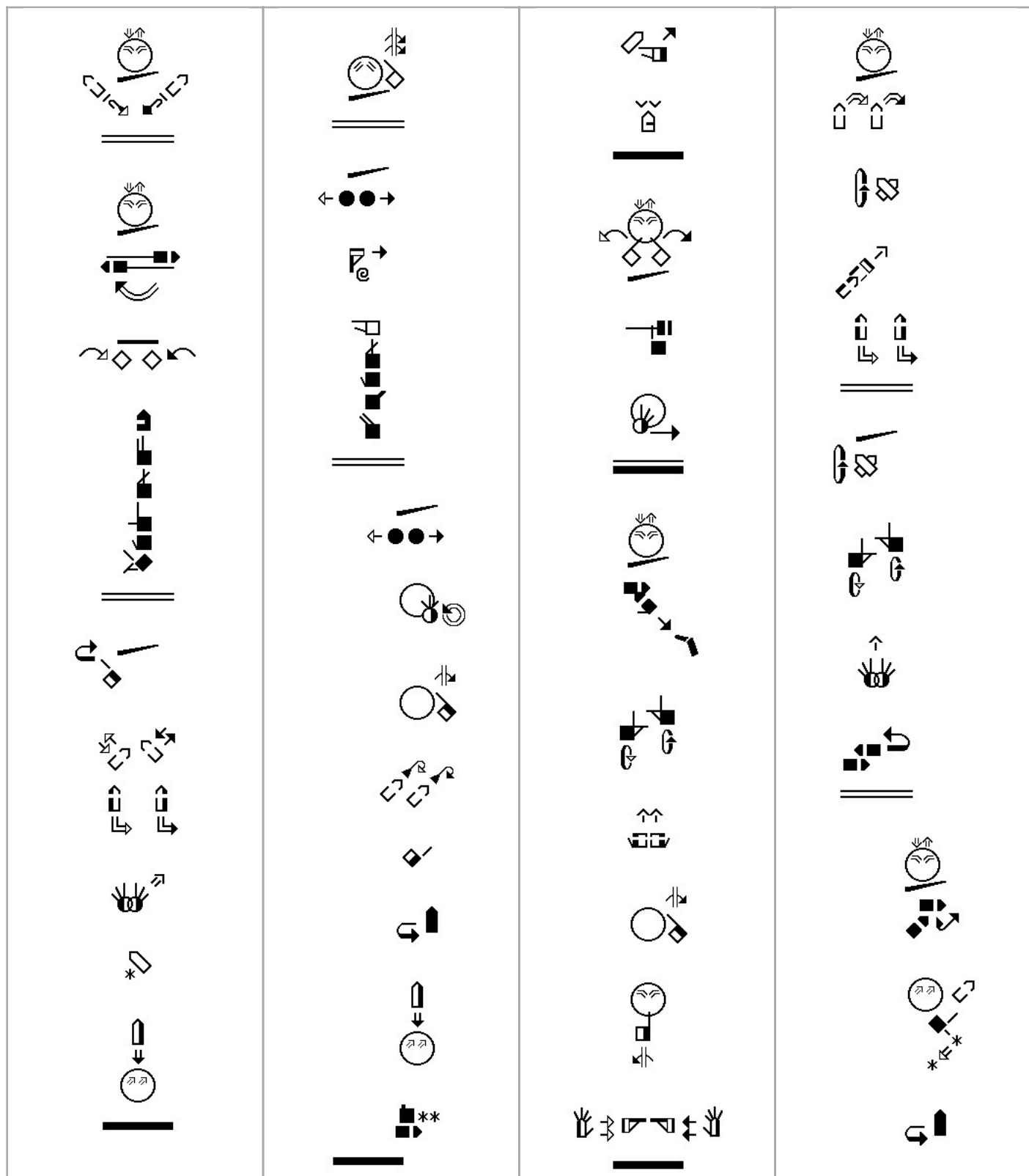
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7 Verse 11. Despair, all you farmers! Wail, all you vine growers! Weep, because the wheat and barley -- all the crops of the field -- are ruined. Verse 12. The grapevines have dried up, and the fig trees have withered. NLT

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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!

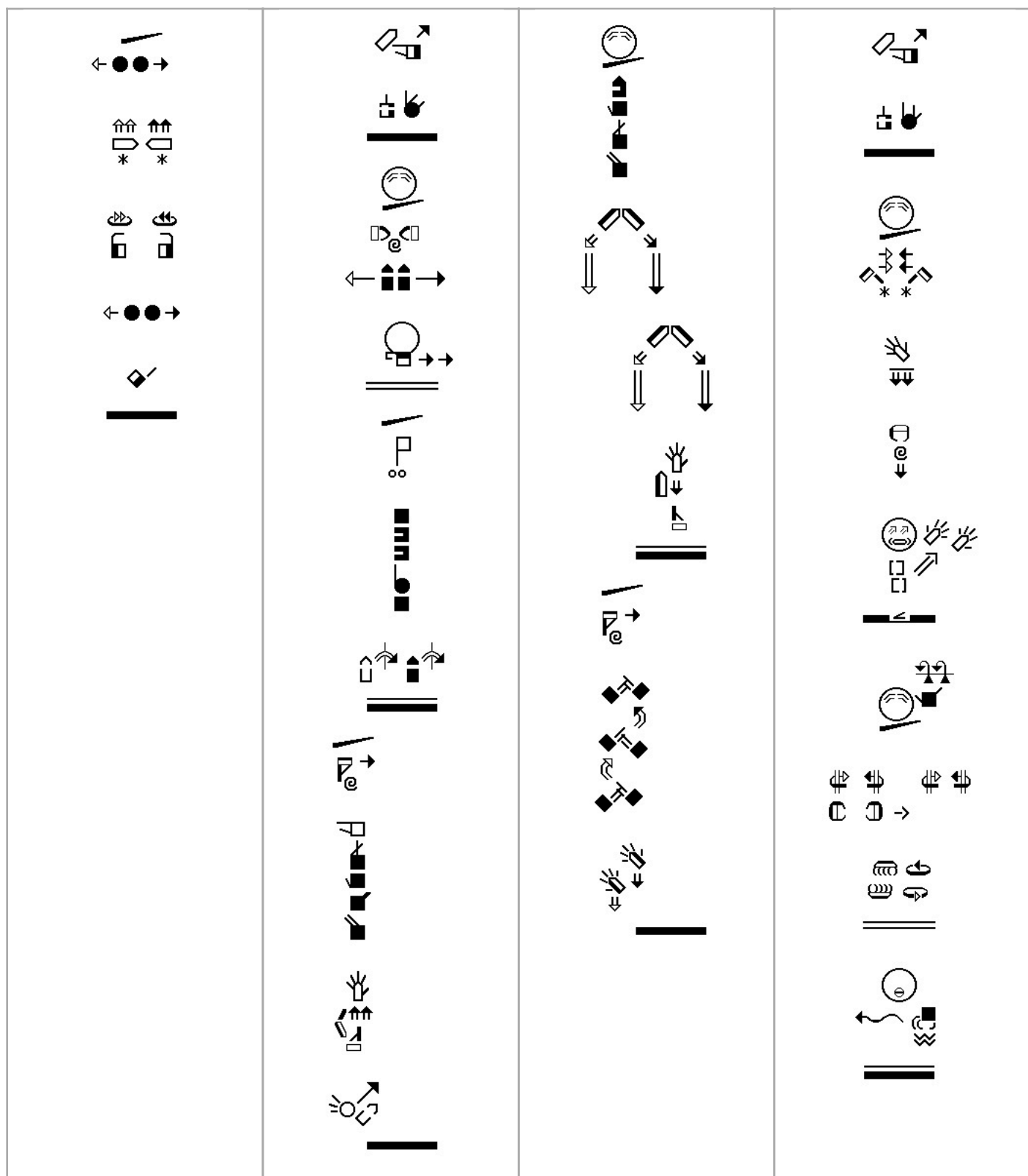
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Come, spend the night in burlap, you ministers of my God. For there is no grain or wine to offer at the Temple of your God. Verse 14. Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Bring the leaders and all the people of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

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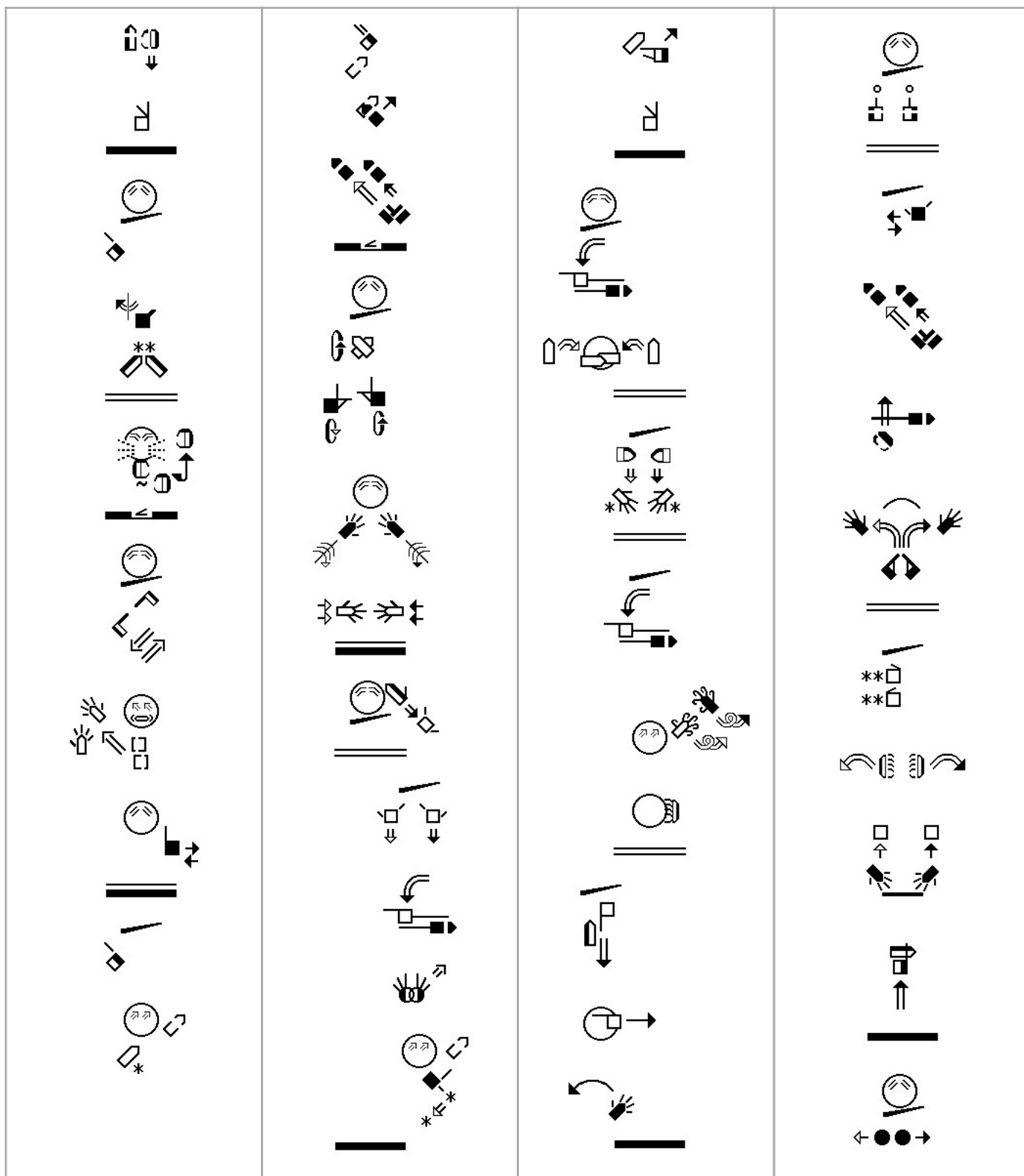
No joyful celebrations are held in the house of our God. Verse 17. The seeds die in the parched ground, and the grain crops fail. The barns stand empty, and granaries are abandoned. Verse 18. How the animals moan with hunger! The herds of cattle wander about confused, because they have no pasture.

NLT

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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

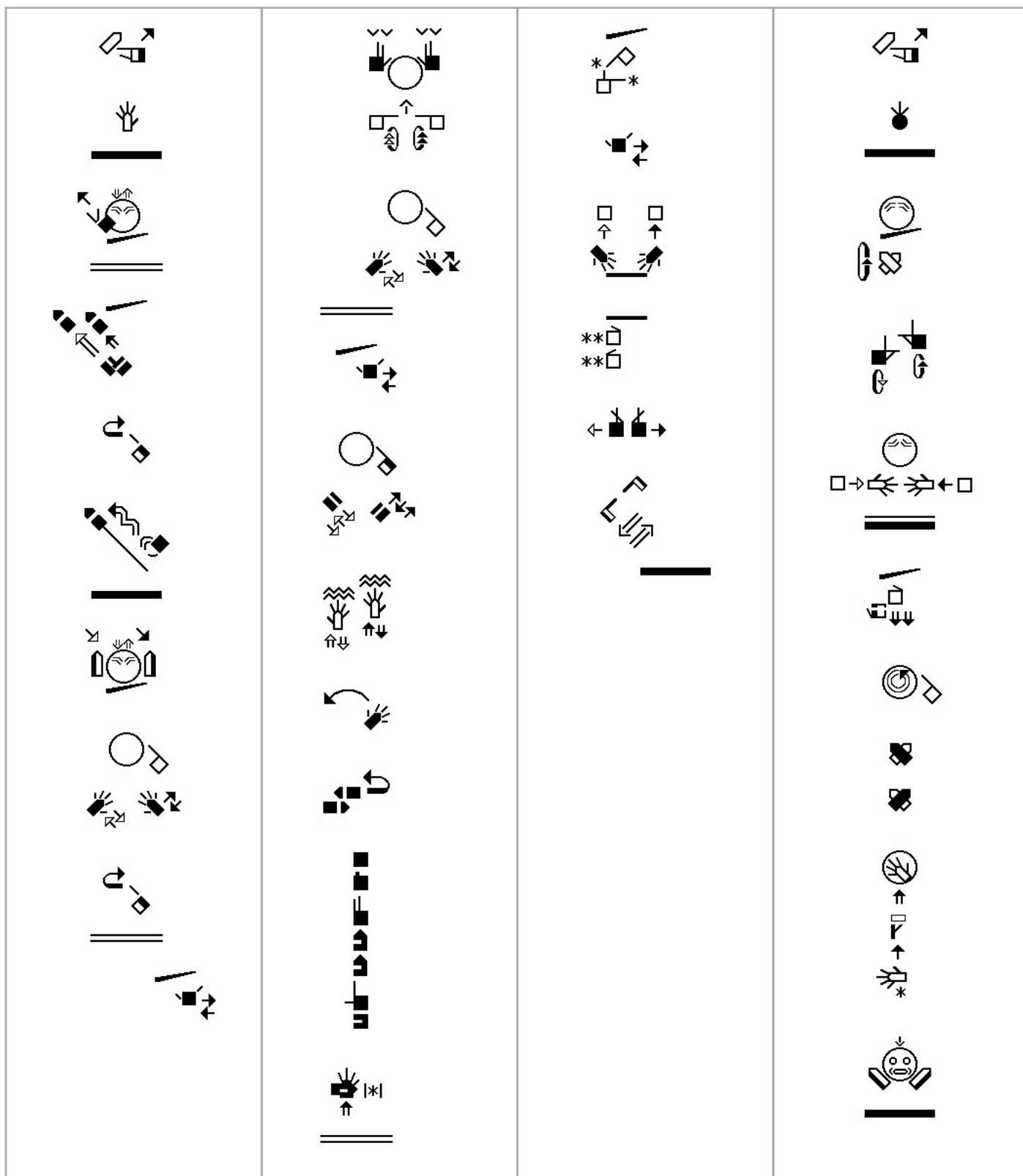
       			
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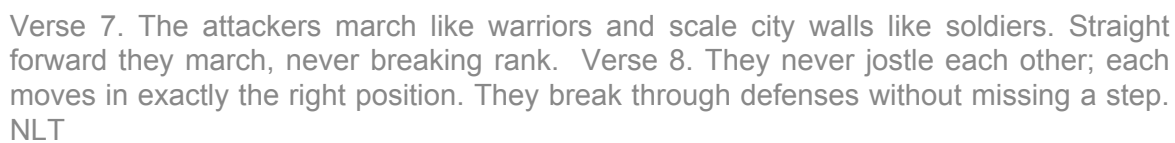
Chapter 2. Sound the alarm in Jerusalem! Raise the battle cry on my holy mountain! Let everyone tremble in fear because the day of the LORD is upon us. Verse 2. It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness. Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains, a great and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

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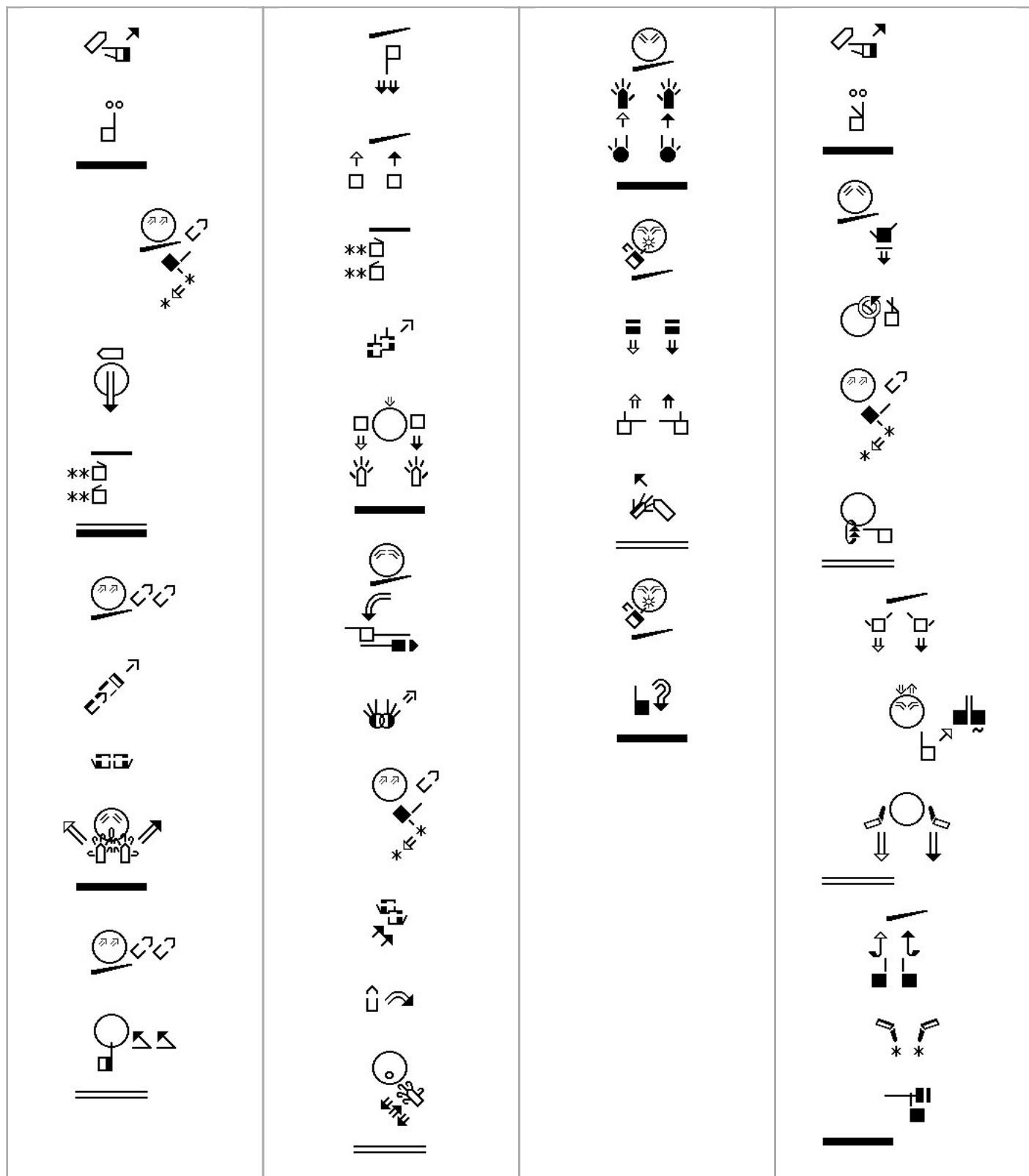
like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again. Verse 3. Fire burns in front of them, and flames follow after them. Ahead of them the land lies as beautiful as the Garden of Eden. Behind them is nothing but desolation; not one thing escapes. Verse 4. They look like horses; they charge forward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



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.  
NLT

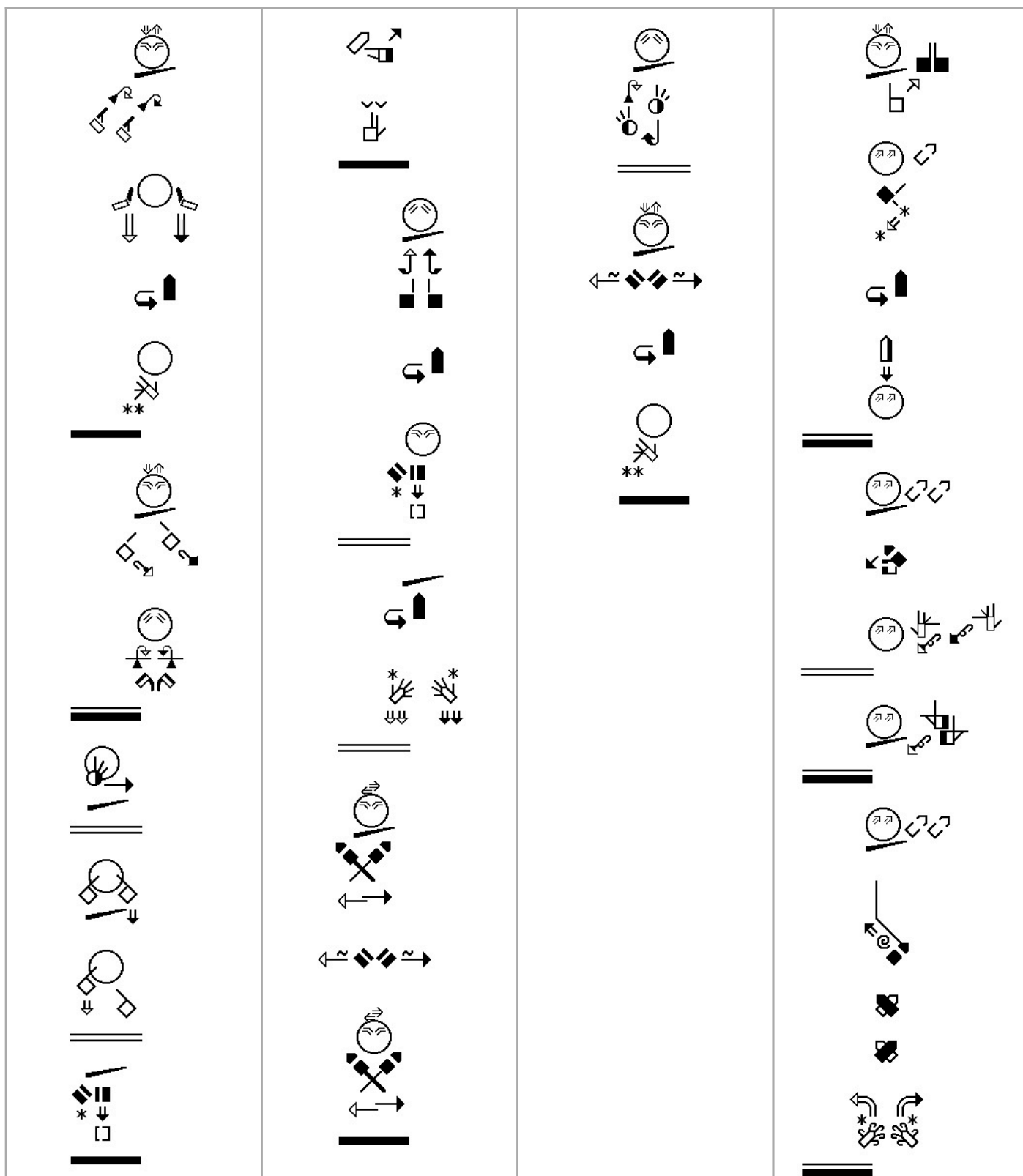


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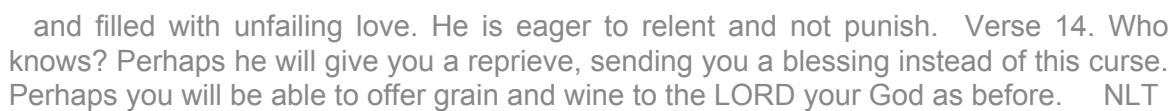


Verse 11. The LORD is at the head of the column. He leads them with a shout. This is his mighty army, and they follow his orders. The day of the LORD is an awesome, terrible thing. Who can possibly survive? Verse 12. That is why the LORD says, "Turn to me now, while there is time.

NLT



















































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



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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.

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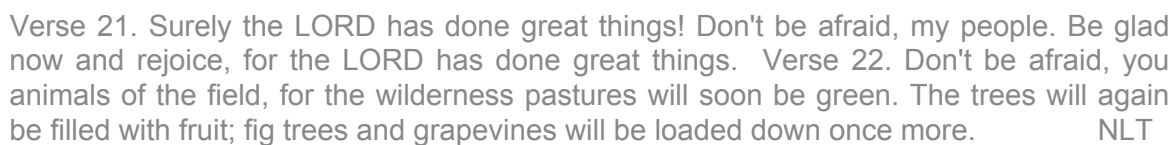
Verse 17. Let the priests, who minister in the LORD'S presence, stand and weep between the entry room to the Temple and the altar. Let them pray, "Spare your people, LORD! Don't let your special possession become an object of mockery. NLT


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.

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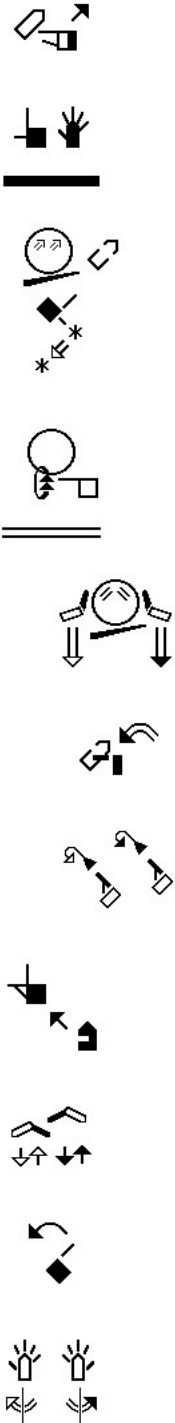
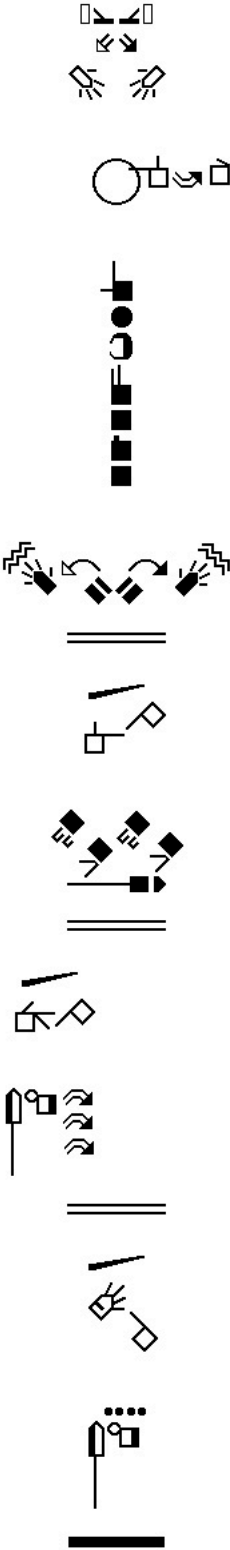
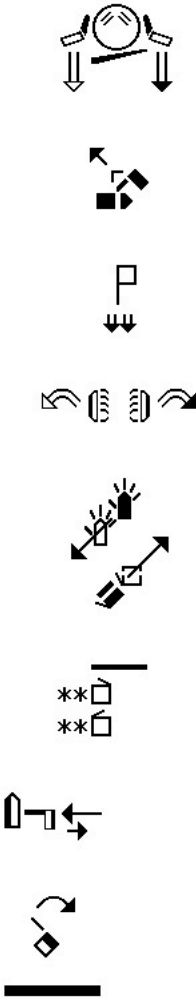
Verse 19. The LORD will reply, "Look! I am sending you grain and new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy your needs. You will no longer be an object of mockery among the surrounding nations. Verse 20. I will drive away these armies from the north. NLT

NLT



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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

			
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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

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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

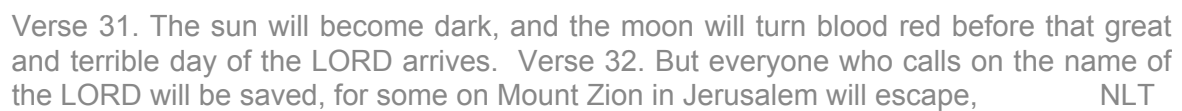
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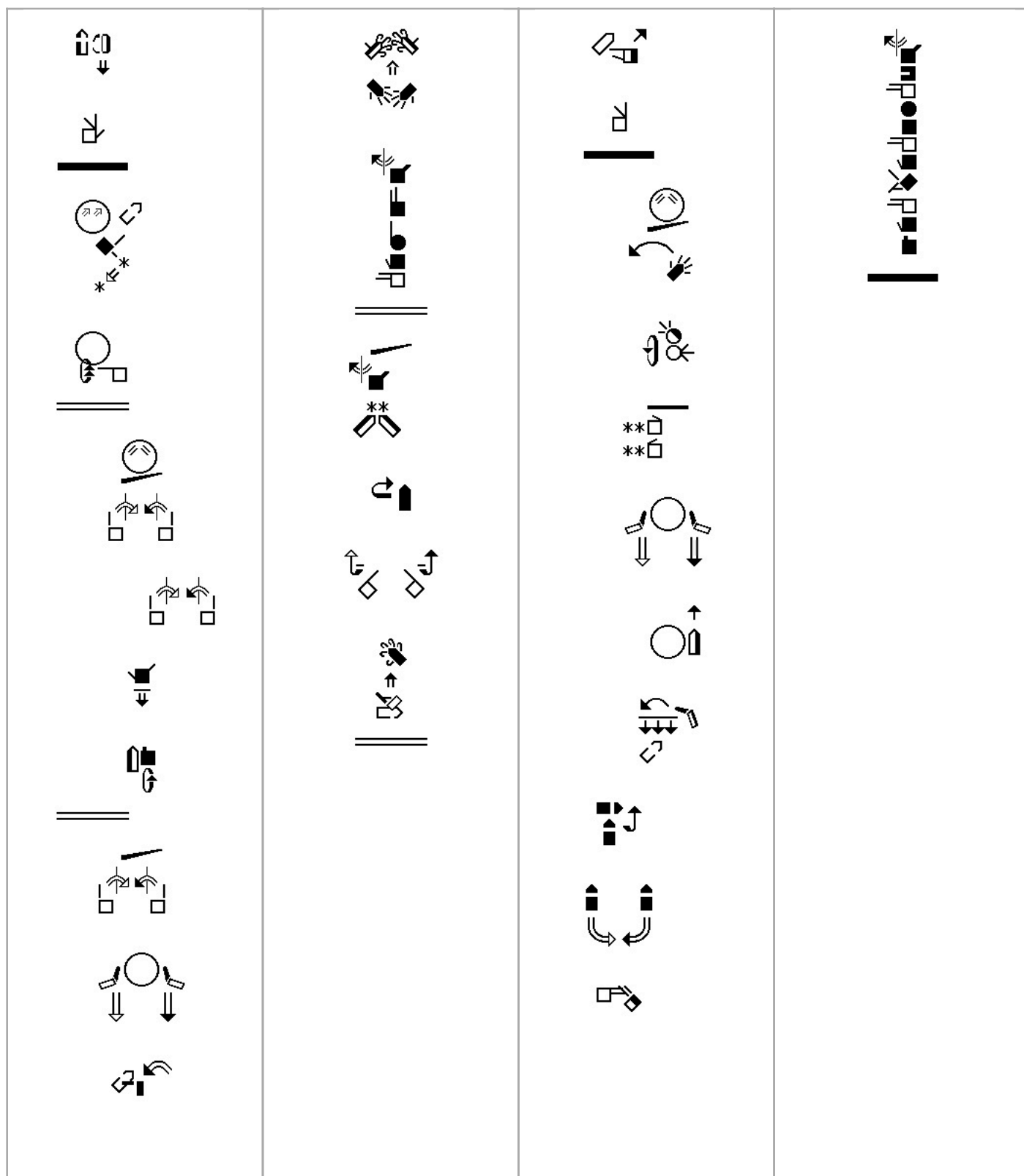
the LORD your God, and there is no other. Never again will my people be disgraced.  
 Verse 28. "Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.  
 Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your  
 young men will see visions.


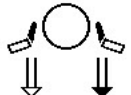

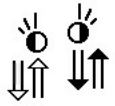


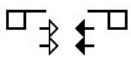

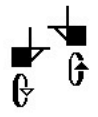









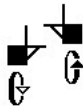

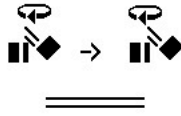
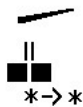




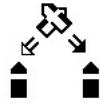
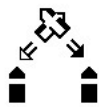

















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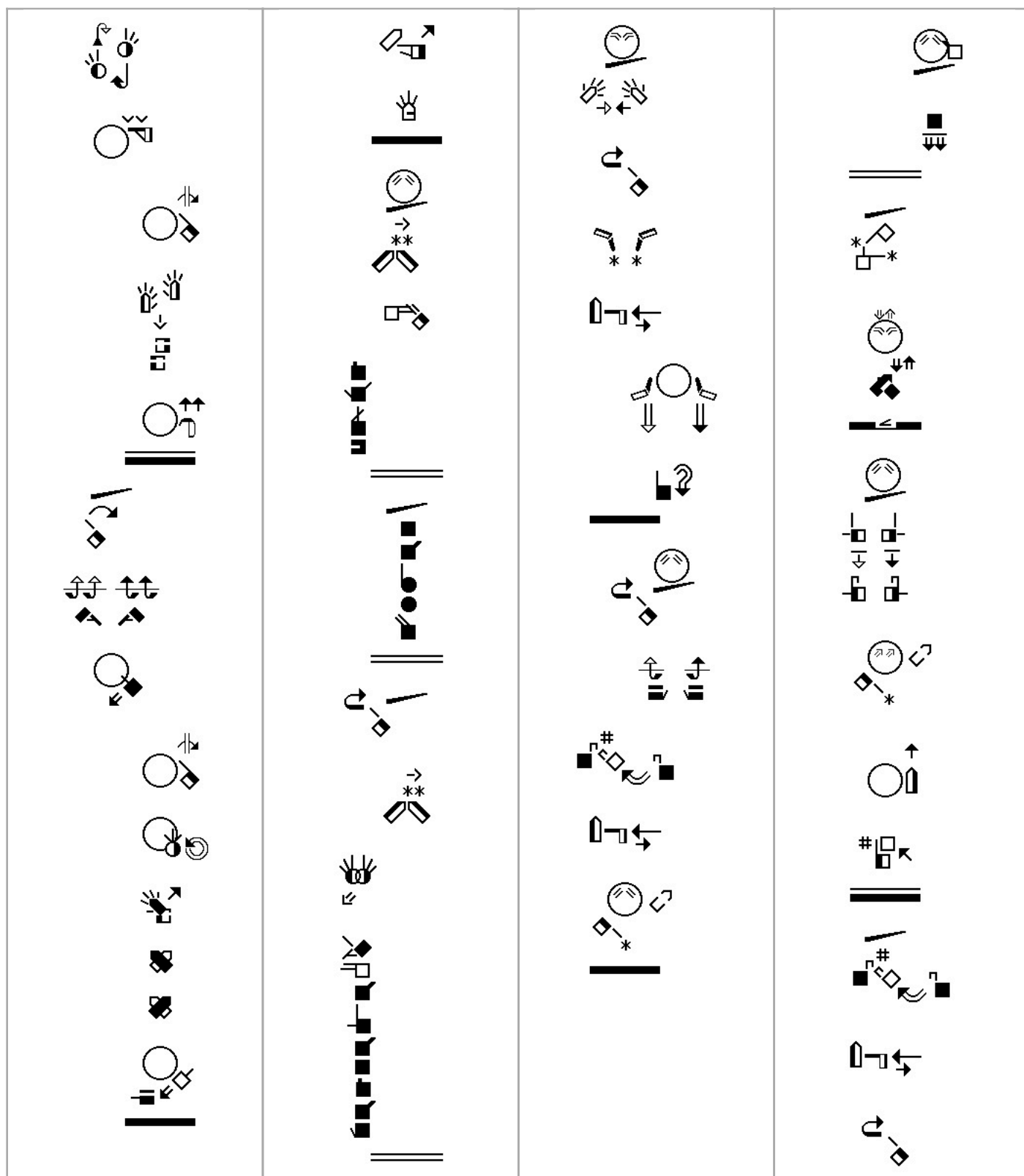
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There I will judge them for harming my people, my special possession, for scattering my people among the nations, and for dividing up my land. Verse 3. They cast lots to decide which of my people would be their slaves. They

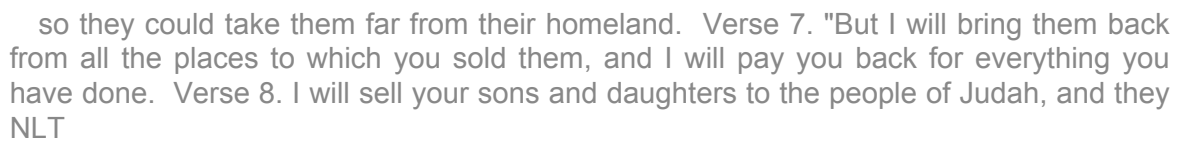
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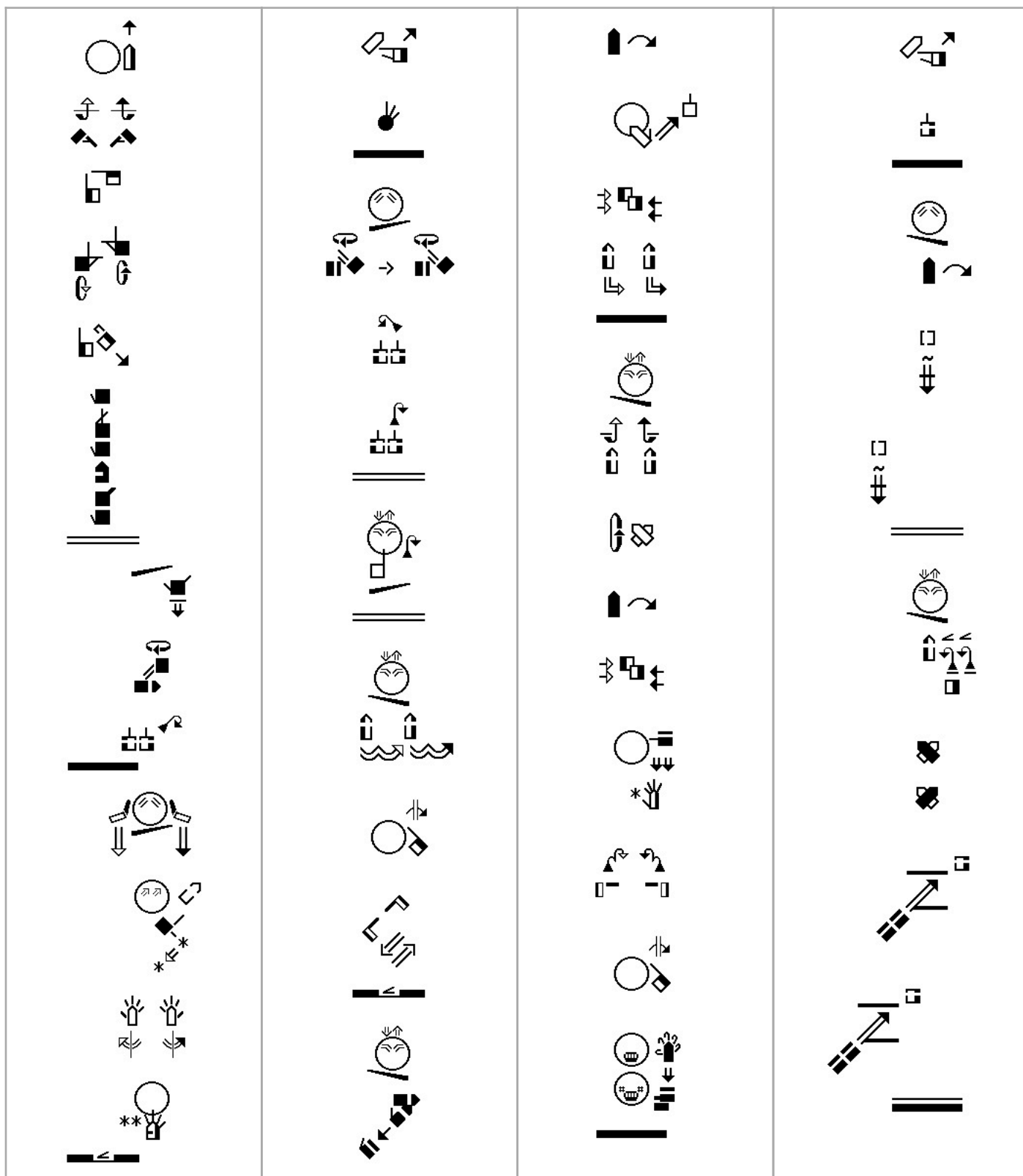


traded boys to obtain prostitutes and sold girls for enough wine to get drunk. Verse 4. "What do you have against me, Tyre and Sidon and you cities of Philistia? Are you trying to take revenge on me? If you are, then watch out! I will strike swiftly and pay you back NLT

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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

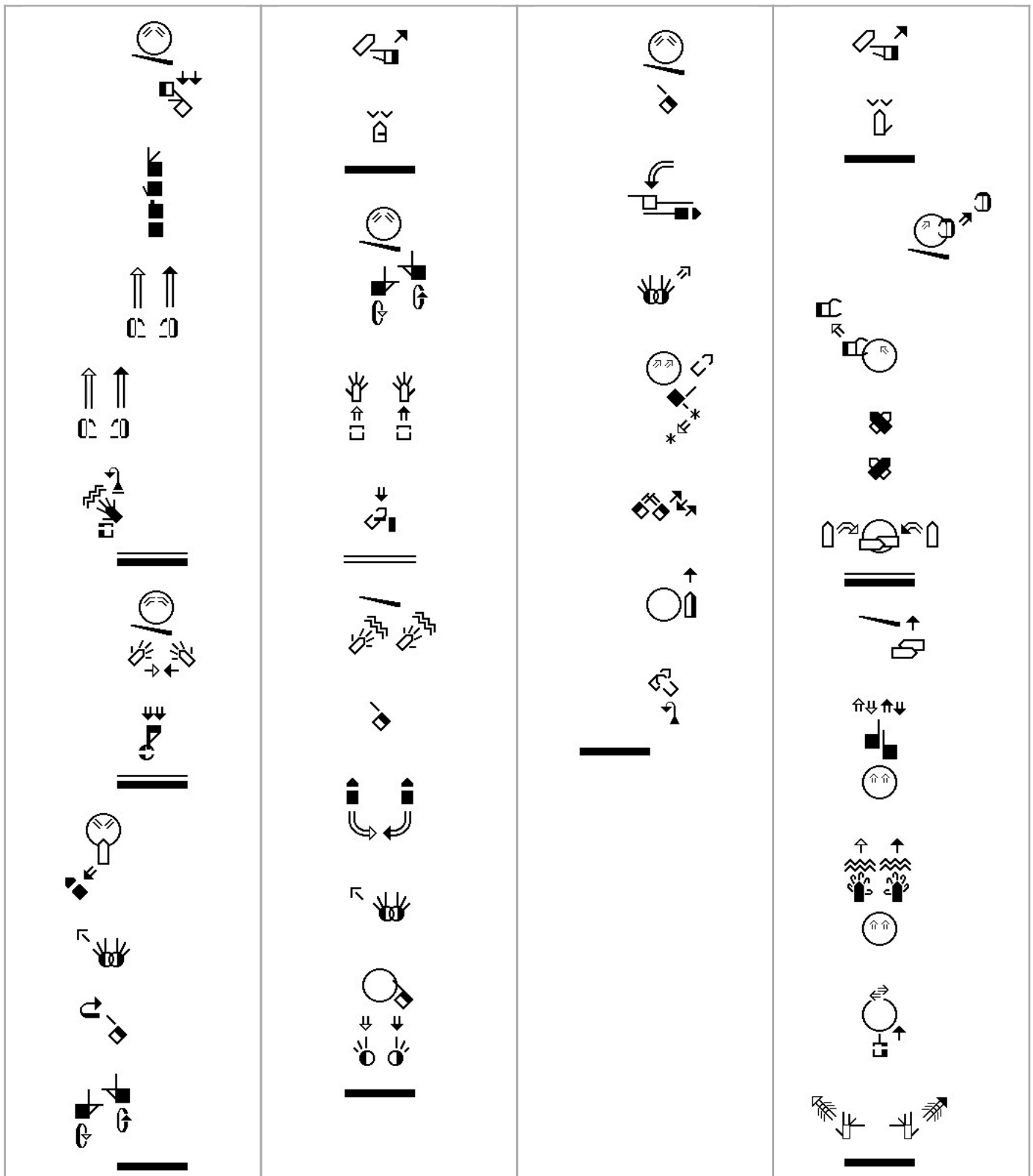




will sell them to the people of Arabia, a nation far away. I, the LORD, have spoken!"  
 Verse 9. Say to the nations far and wide: "Get ready for war! Call out your best warriors.  
 Let all your fighting men advance for the attack. Verse 10. Hammer your plowshares into  
 swords  
 NLT

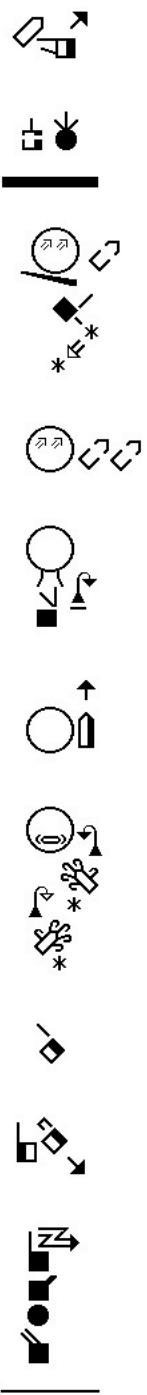
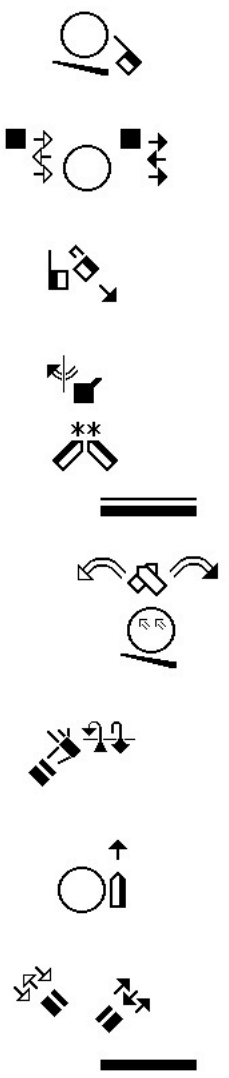
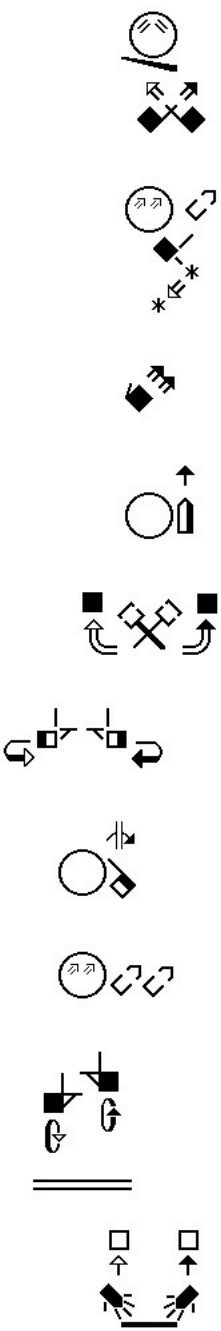

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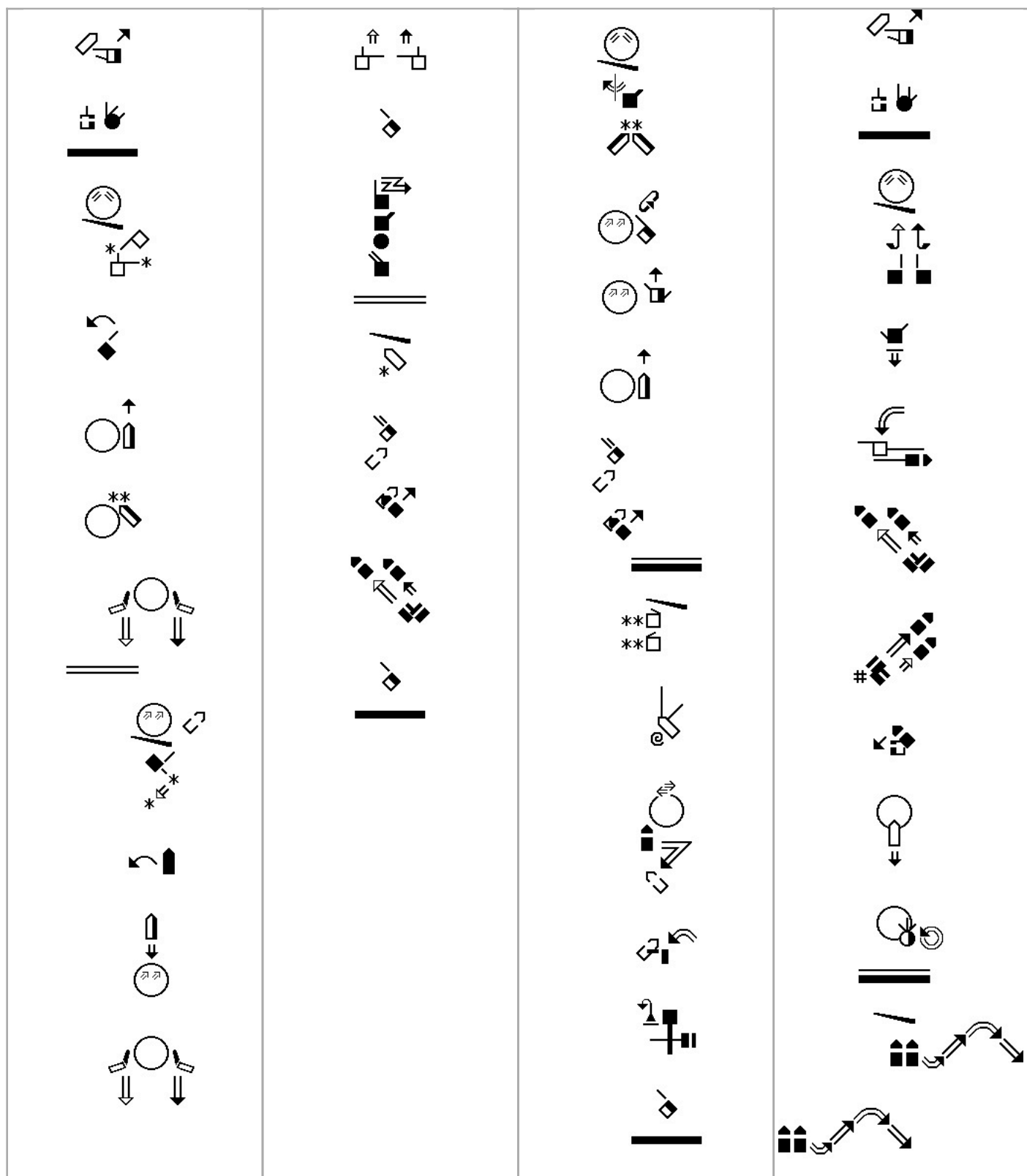
The storage vats are overflowing with the wickedness of these people." Verse 14. Thousands upon thousands are waiting in the valley of decision. There the day of the LORD will soon arrive. Verse 15. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will no longer shine.

NLT

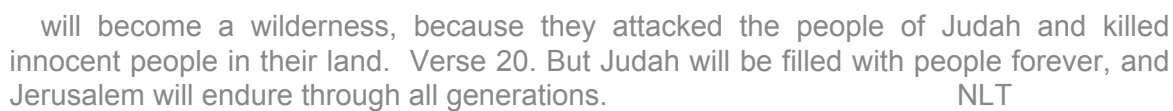
			
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











































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.

NLT



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

                	                	                	
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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