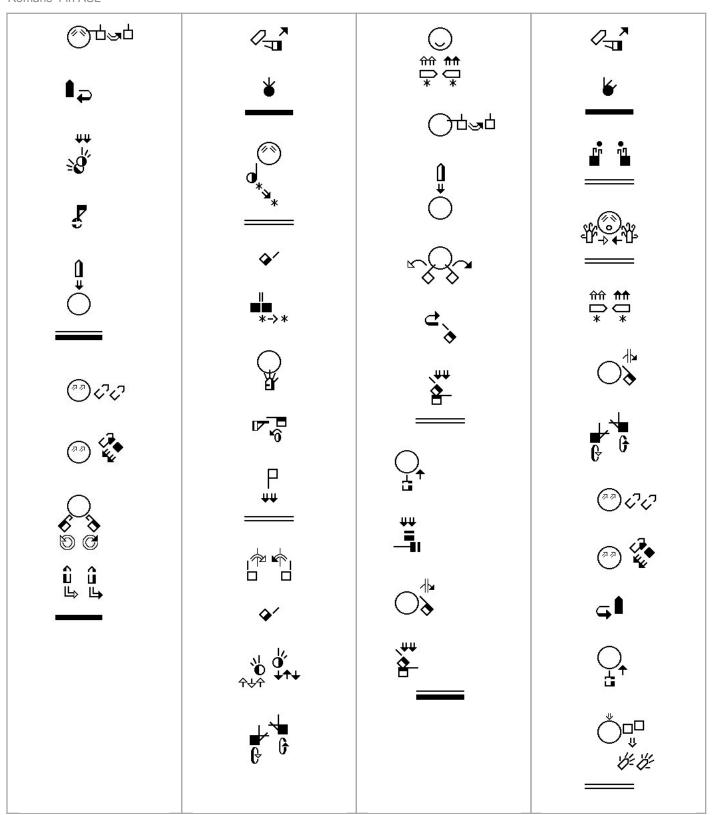
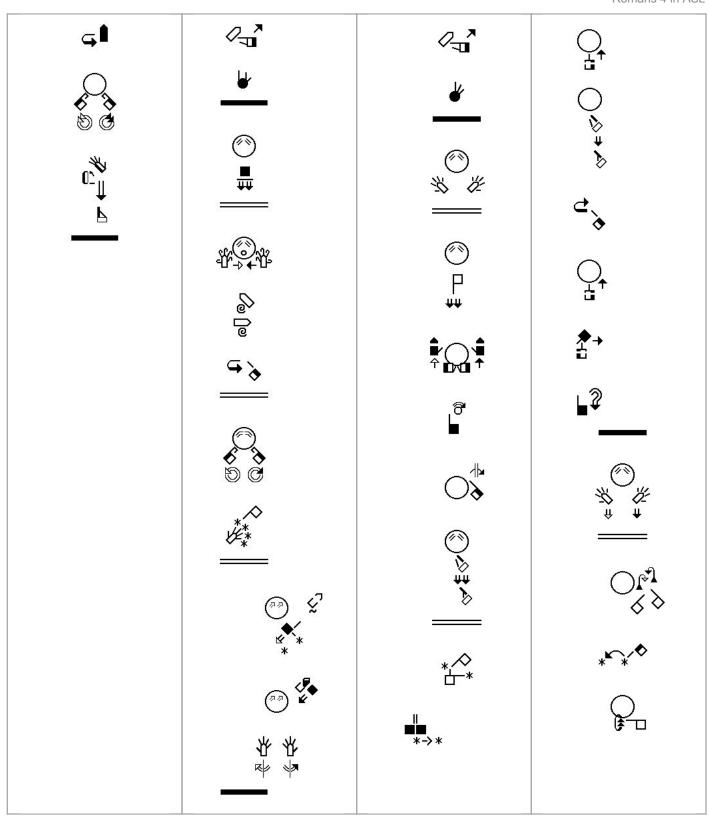


4 Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God? 2. If his good deeds had made him acceptable to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way. NLT

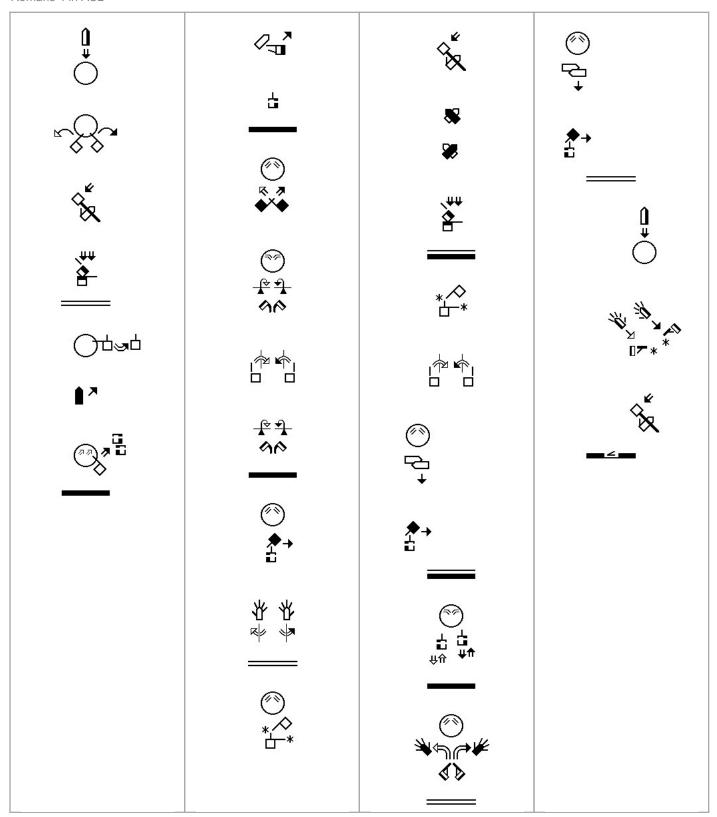
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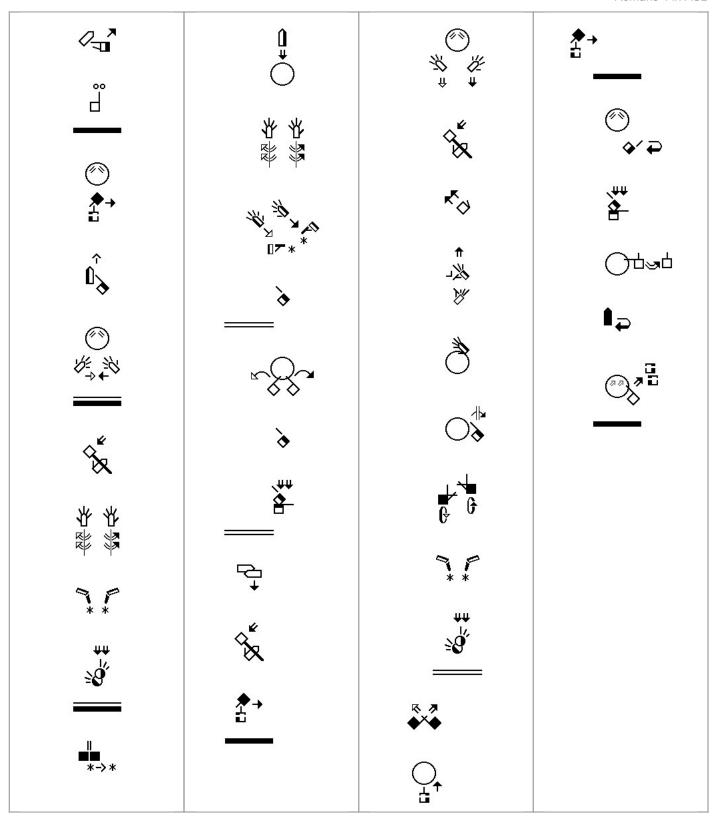
3. For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." 4. When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned. 5. But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, NLT



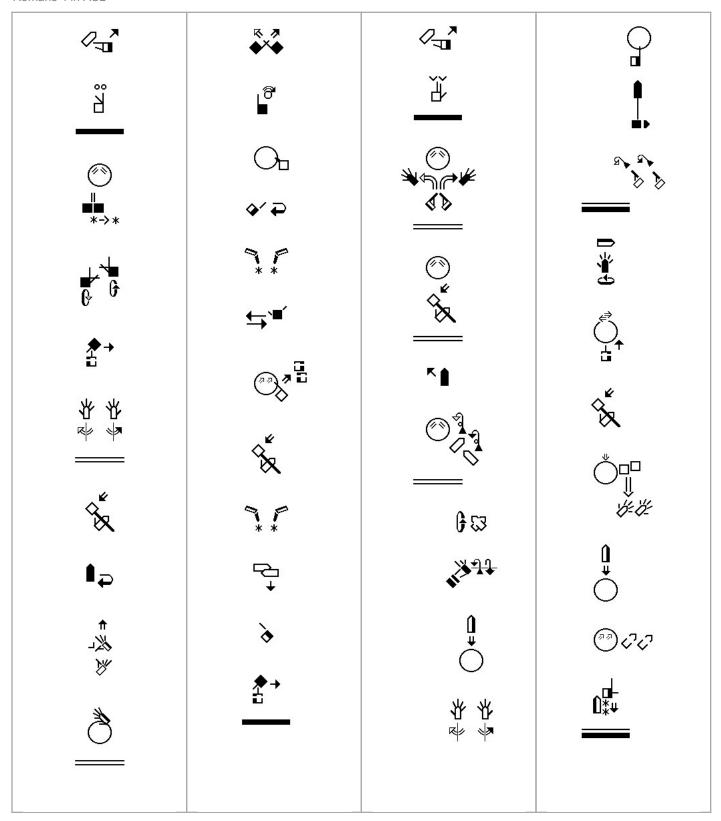


whose sins are put out of sight." 8. "Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of sin." 9. Now, is this blessing only for the Jews, or is it also for uncircumcised Gentiles? Well, we have been saying NLT

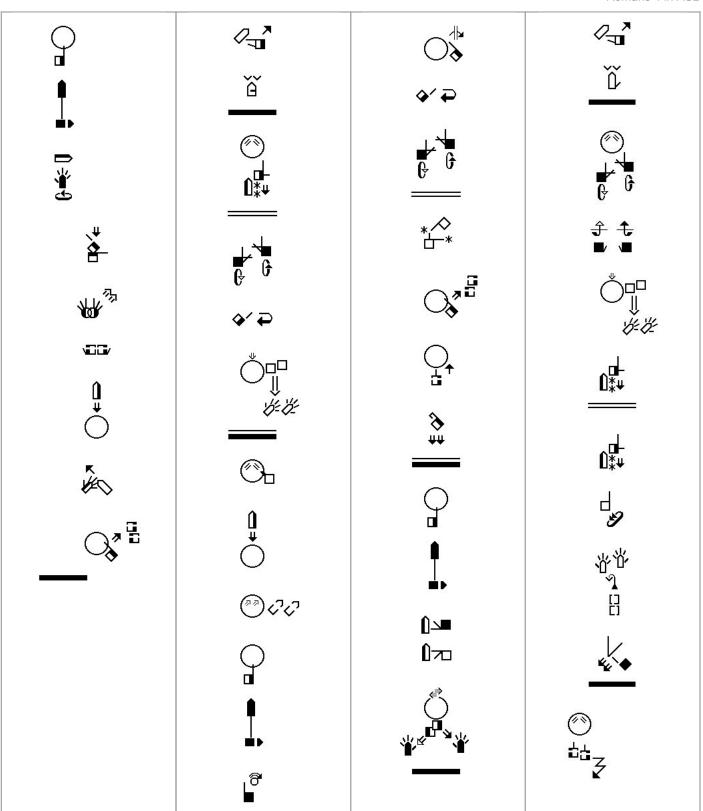


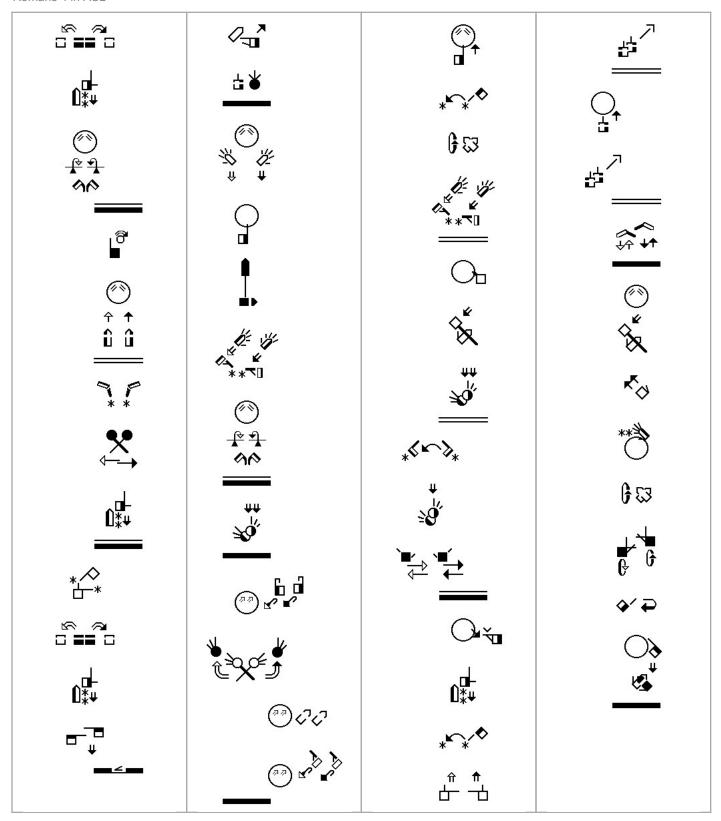


11. Circumcision was a sign that Abraham already had faith and that God had already accepted him and declared him to be righteous -- even before he was circumcised. So Abraham is the spiritual father of those who have faith but have not been circumcised. They are counted as righteous because of their faith. NLT

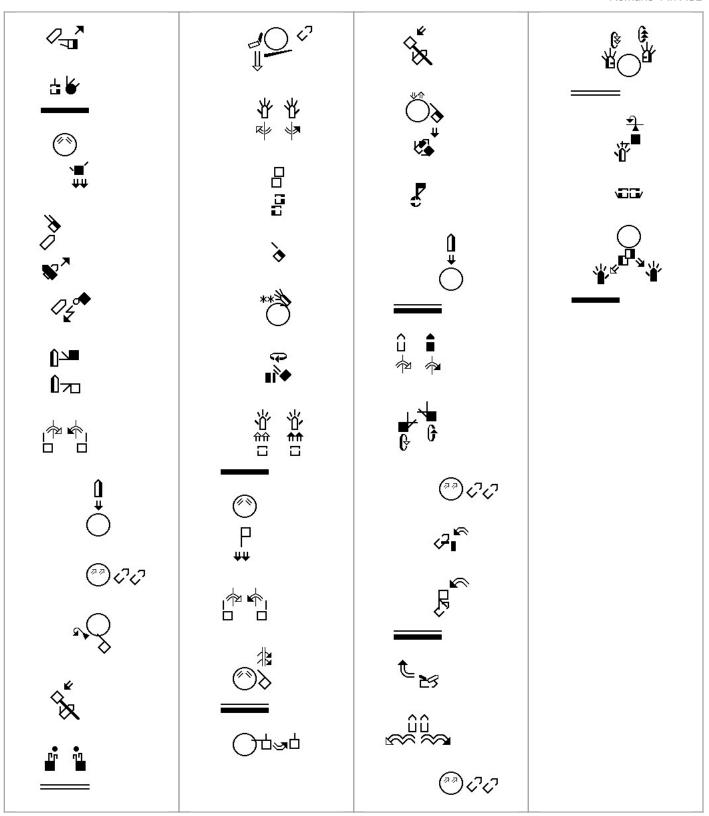


12. And Abraham is also the spiritual father of those who have been circumcised, but only if they have the same kind of faith Abraham had before he was circumcised. 13. Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, NLT

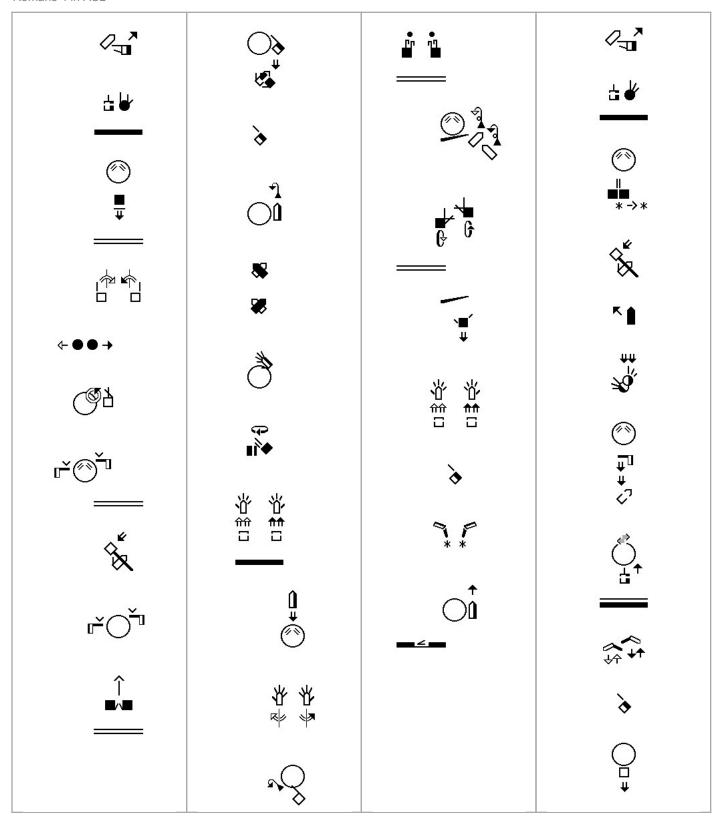




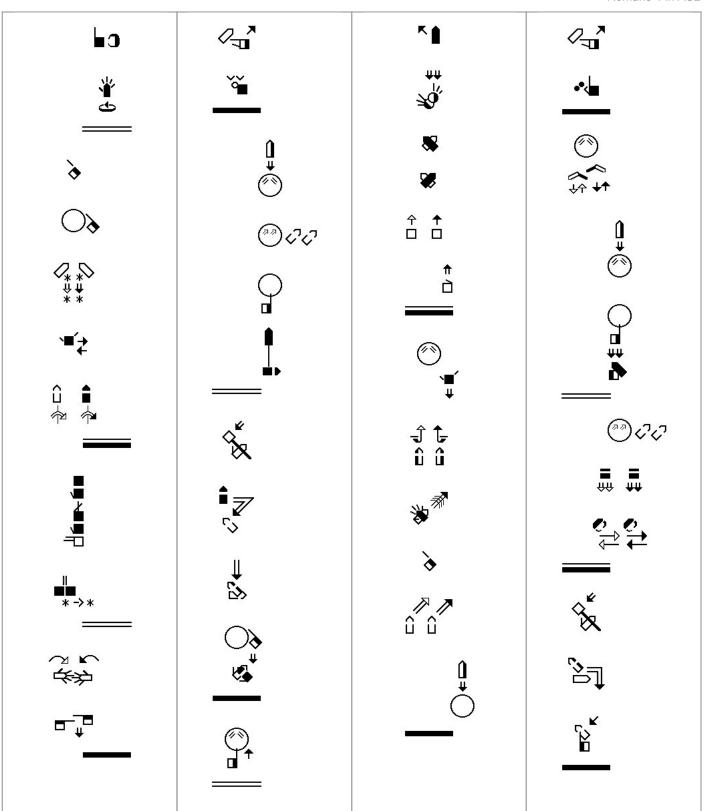
(The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!) 16. So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. NLT



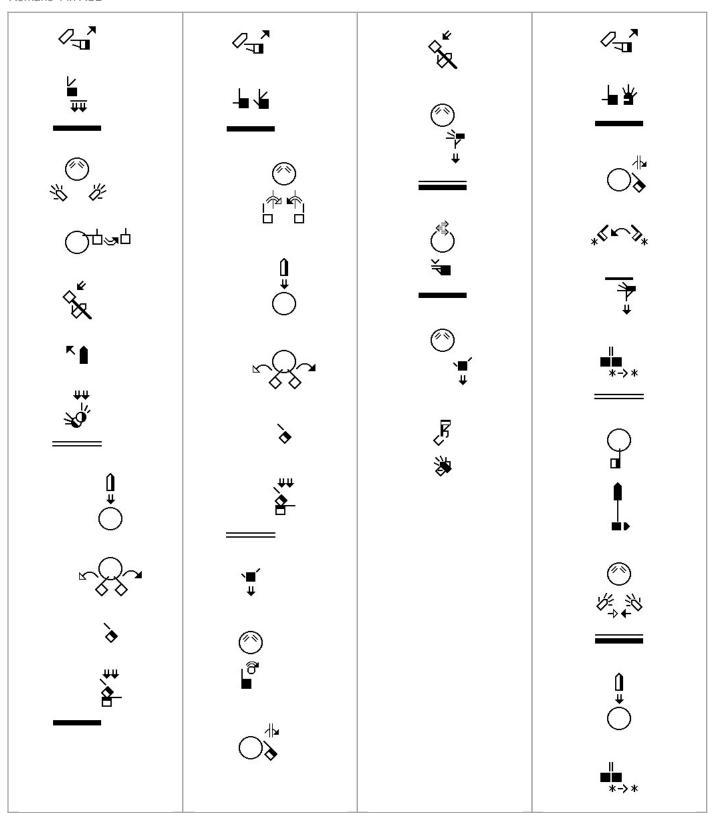
17. That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations." This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.



18. Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping -- believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" 19. And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, NLT



at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead -- and so was Sarah's womb. 20. Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. 21. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. NLT



22. And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous. 23. And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded 24. for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also NLT

