

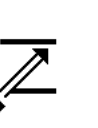







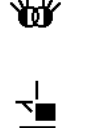


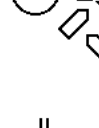
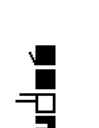


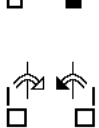






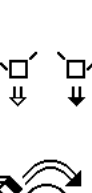


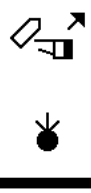
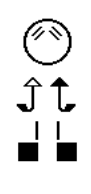
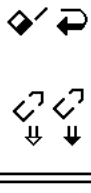

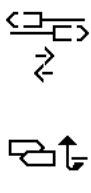





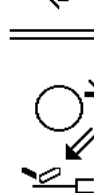




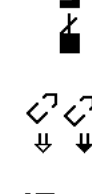


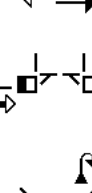




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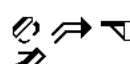









































































31 And a sword will pierce your very soul." Verse 36. Anna, a prophet, was also there in the Temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years. NLT

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Verse 3. All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. Verse 4. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. NLT

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Verse 5. He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant. Verse 6. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. Verse 7. She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them. NLT


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Verse 8. That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Verse 9. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, NLT

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Verse 10. but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people." Verse 11. The Savior -- yes, the Messiah, the Lord -- has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! NLT

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Verse 14. "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." Verse 15. When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." NLT

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Verse 16. They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. Verse 17. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. NLT

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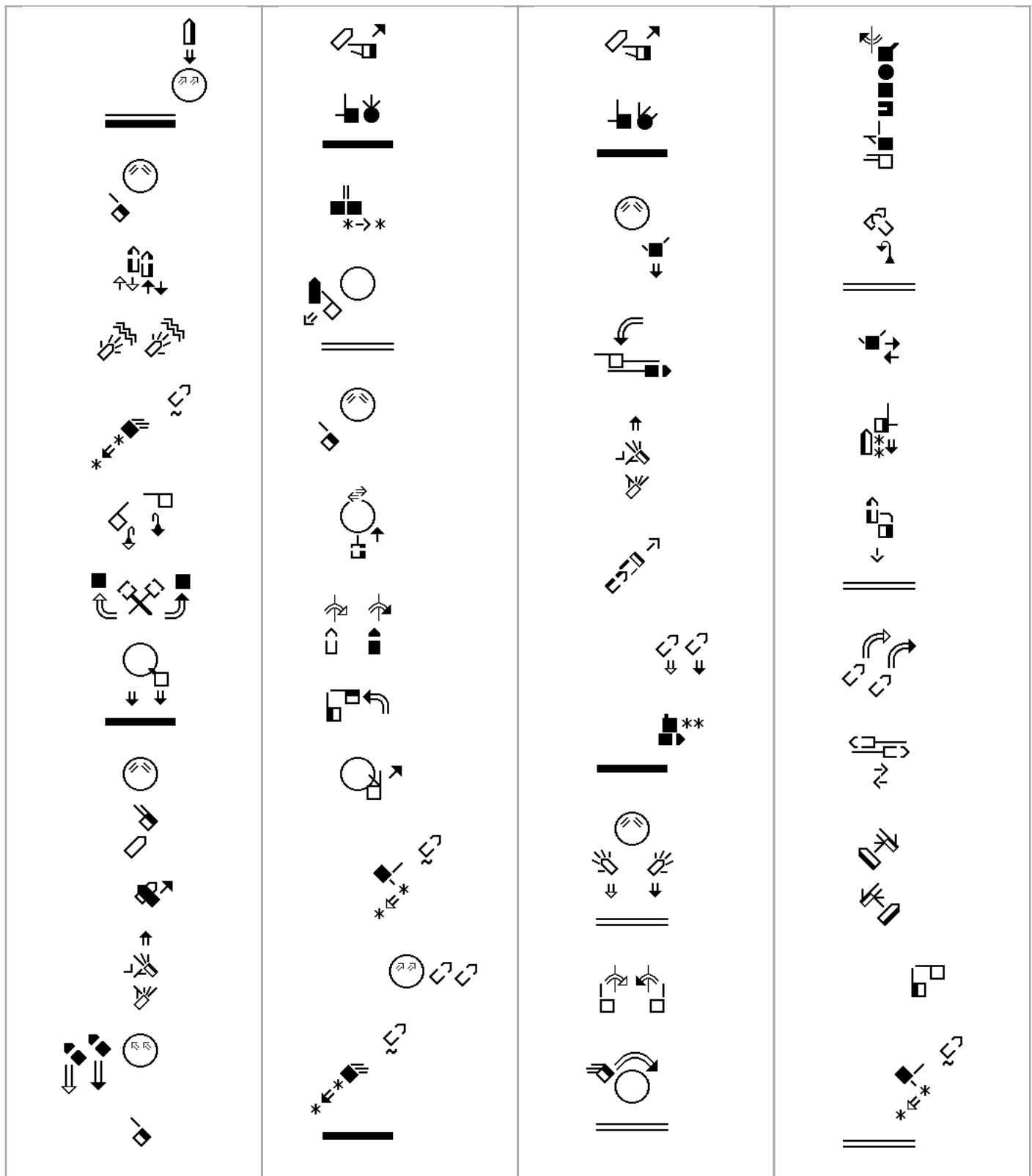
Verse 18. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, Verse 19. but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. Verse 20. The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them. NLT

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Verse 21. Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived. Verse 22. Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. NLT




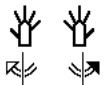



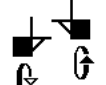



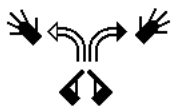






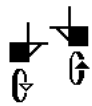














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Verse 23. The law of the Lord says, "If a woman's first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the LORD." Verse 24. So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord -- "either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Verse 25. At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout NLT



and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him Verse 26. and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Verse 27. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, NLT























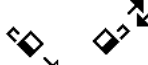

























































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Verse 31. which you have prepared for all people. Verse 32. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!" Verse 33. Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. NLT

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Verse 34. Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. Verse 35. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. NLT

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Luke 2. At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. Verse 2. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) NLT

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Verse 37. Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshipping God with fasting and prayer. Verse 38. She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been waiting expectantly for God to

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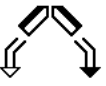









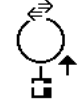








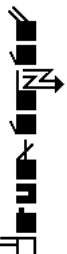

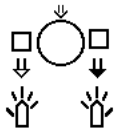










Verse 39. When Jesus' parents had fulfilled all the requirements of the law of the Lord, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. Verse 40. There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him. Verse 41. Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. NLT

Verse 42. When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. Verse 43. After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, Verse 44. because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening,




















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they started looking for him among their relatives and friends. Verse 45. When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. Verse 46. Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. NLT

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"Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" Verse 50. But they didn't understand what he meant. Verse 51. Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart. NLT

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