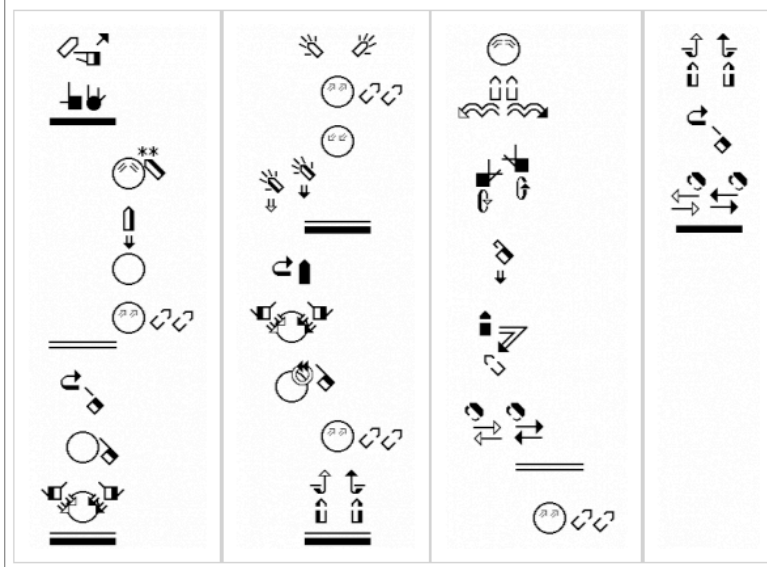


AN UNPRINCIPLED PERSON

Reprobate

Romans 1:28 And even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up unto a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

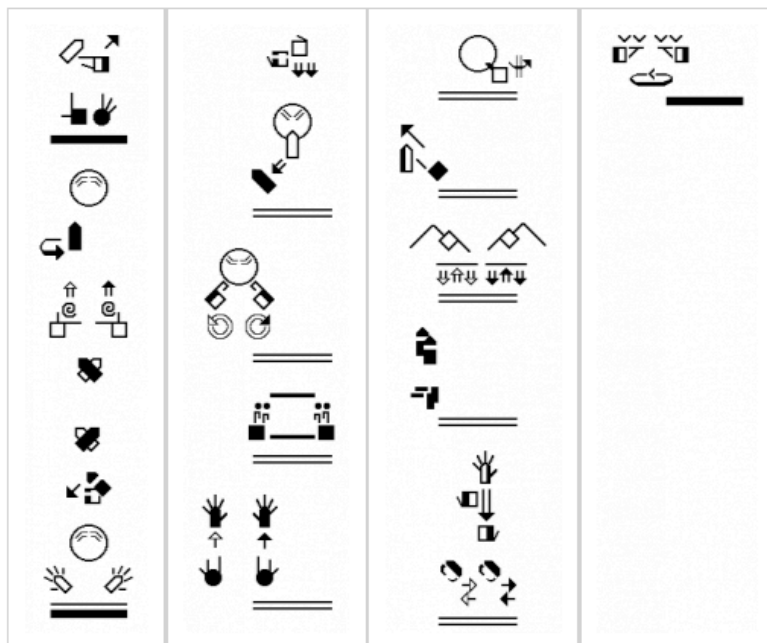


28 Know God He, they think foolish, so God abandon. Their foolish thinking He allowed. Things people should never do, He allowed them do.

Paul continues with his theme: Why the lost are lost. Note: that this progressive falling precedes from idolatry, to sexual perversion, to a reprobate mind. (They finally end of doing things they admit are wrong.)

Unrighteous

Romans 1:29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

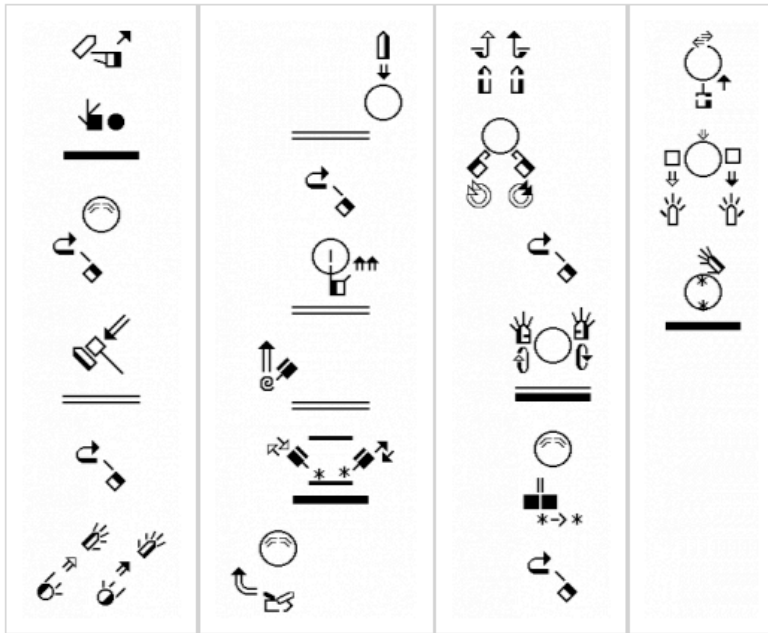


29 Their lives became dark so, every evil sin, covetousness, hatred, jealousy, murder, strife, deception, malignity, gossip.

Without God people fill up with the wrong things. This is the level that the ungodly fall to, and this is the reason why God gave them up because they refused to have God. The solution: Get God back in their knowledge.

Manipulators

Romans 1:30 backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

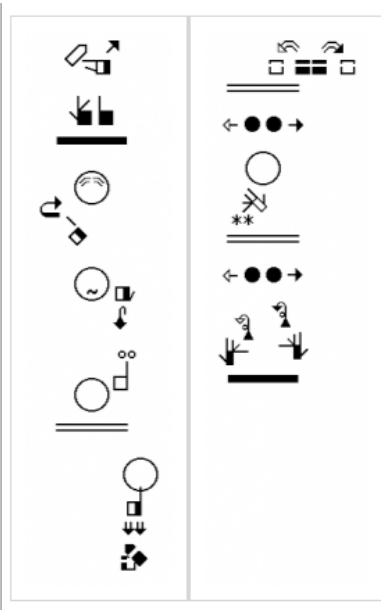


30 They back-stab, hate God, insolent, proud, boast, new ways sinning they invent. Also they not obey parents.

Wickedness is a craft, intentions are hidden; righteousness is an attitude which intentions are open, sincere, and vulnerable to criticism and correction.

Unnatural

Romans 1:31 without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, unmerciful:

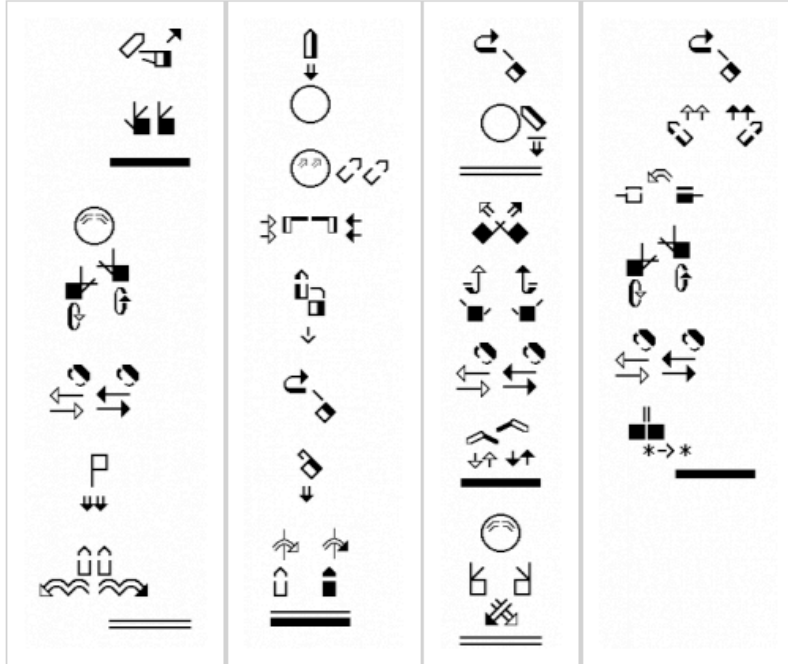


31 They refuse understand, promises break, none pity.

Total lovelessness, people without conscience, people that can lie without guilt, do not even love their own families, they despise the weak and desperate; they only respect power, money, and beauty. This is unnatural, inhumane.

Knowing

Romans 1:32 who, knowing the ordinance of God, that they that practise such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also consent with them that practise them.



32 People doing these things, God His justice requires they die. They know, but still do anyway. Worse, they encourage other people do the same.

They know. So when people protest God's judgment, when people say it is unfair of God to send people to hell, tell them, "You knew." If they have the facility to judge God then they can be judged.

We need to see people's condition honestly. Our diagnosis must be accurate. Man is in rebellion. The truth of God is available. Men have chosen sin. Sin has become an addictive habit that is destroying everything in its wake. Like a cigarette smoker, man knew it would cause cancer, but he turned away from the truth. The man dying of cancer cannot say he did not know and neither can a man cast in hell say he did not know right from wrong. The gospel is not a message of condemnation but a last call to men self condemned, undeserving, but precious in the eyes of God. God is saying I still can save you.

We also need to see God as He really is and not how we wish Him to be. He made man good. Man sinned. God destroyed the world with a flood; He commanded every living thing in Jericho to be destroyed (except Rabab and her family); He died on the cross; and He is preparing a place for us.

A good God made the world; a good God gave mankind freedom; a good God will punish sin; and a good God offers a way to be saved. The decision is still ours: Trust in your own righteousness or accept the righteousness of God; believe that you do not need to turn from sin, or turn to God.

Romans 10:13 for, Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Don't pray while walking the opposite way, but turn around and say, "God be merciful to me a sinner." That is God's will for you.