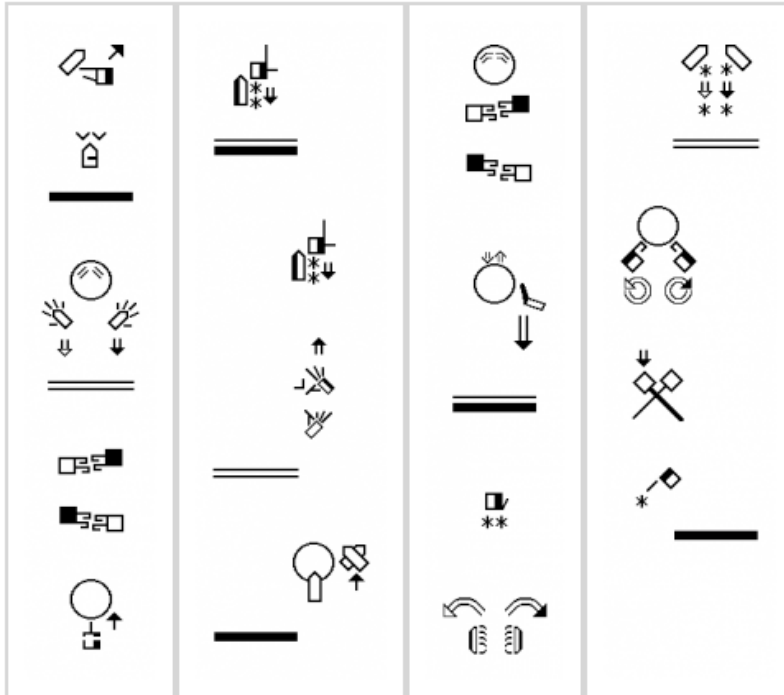


I AM CARNAL.

Romans 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.



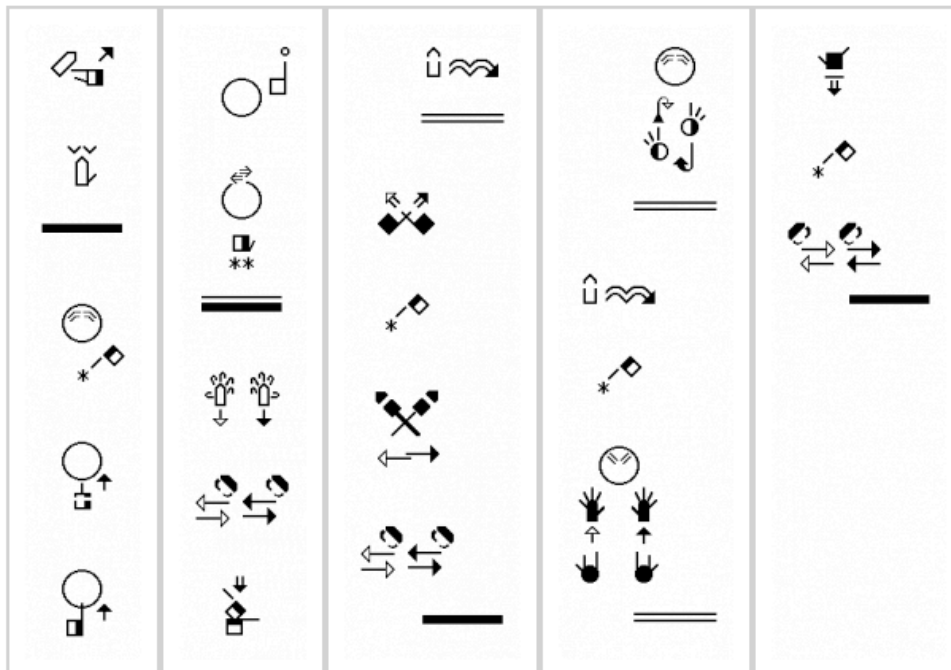
14. So, (the) problem (is) not (the) Law. (The) Law (is) spiritual, (and) good. (The) problem (is) me. I 'm very carnal, sin enslaves me.

The problems is not the rules but the person who does not want to be ruled.

We, in ourselves, cannot escape our carnality. However, we must recognize its existence.

The son of a slave is still a slave. Let him try to leave the plantation and he will find out the truth.

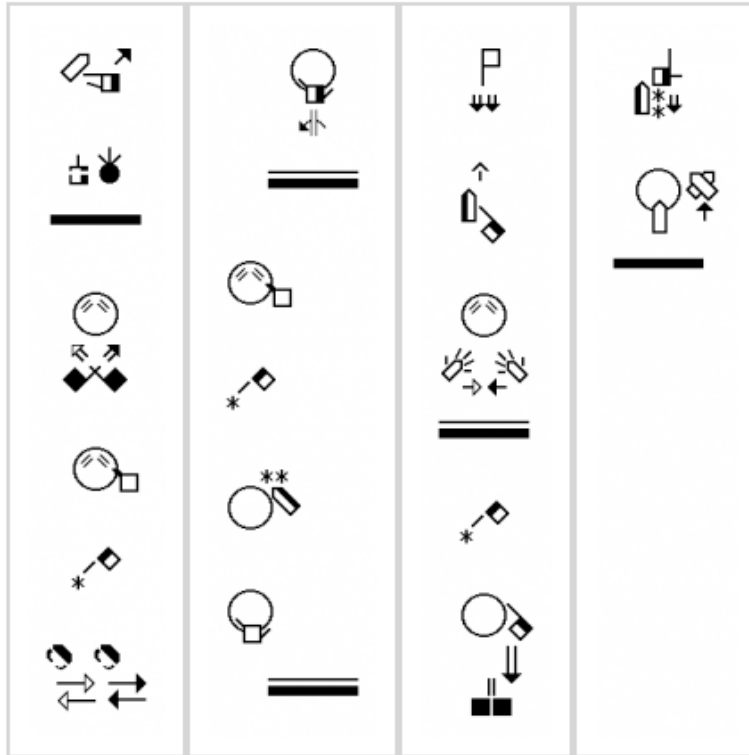
Romans 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.



15. I don't really understand myself. (I) want (to) do right things, but I don't do (them). Instead, things I hate, that I do.

Our own hypocrisy is a mystery. We observe that our own behavior does not match what we want and claim to be.

Romans 7:16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

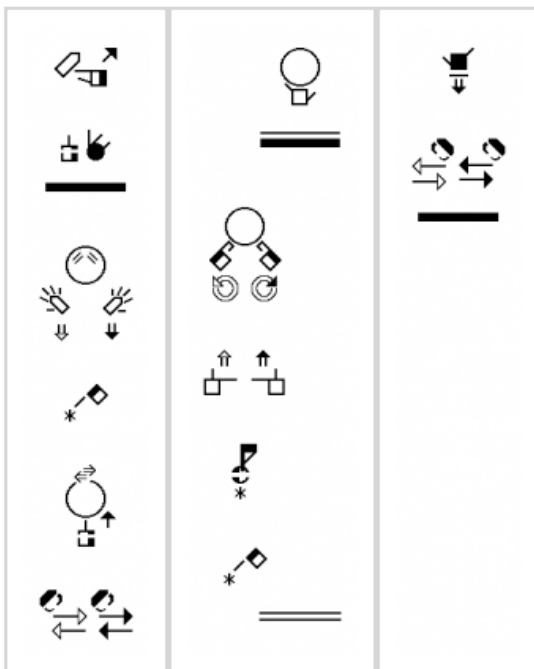


16. But If I do wrong. If I know (its) wrong. This shows what? I agree (the) Law (is) good.

My conscience confirms that the Law is good and right, and my conscience condemns me.

All of us know (except for the insane) right from wrong. Otherwise, it would be unjust to punish anyone for doing something wrong. Even Nazi collaborators were found guilty though they had done no crime.

Romans 7: 17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.



17. So I don't do wrong, (the) sin that lives in me, that does (the wrong).

It is as if some alien dwells inside me. It is not a devil or demon, but something more insidious, the sin nature.

Like the craving for nicotine; I don't want nicotine. I know it is evil but I cannot overcome the craving and sin is much stronger than any narcotic.

Not being fully culpable does not release us from the responsibility or consequences of our actions. (ill.) You cannot blame your habit if it causes you to burn down the house.