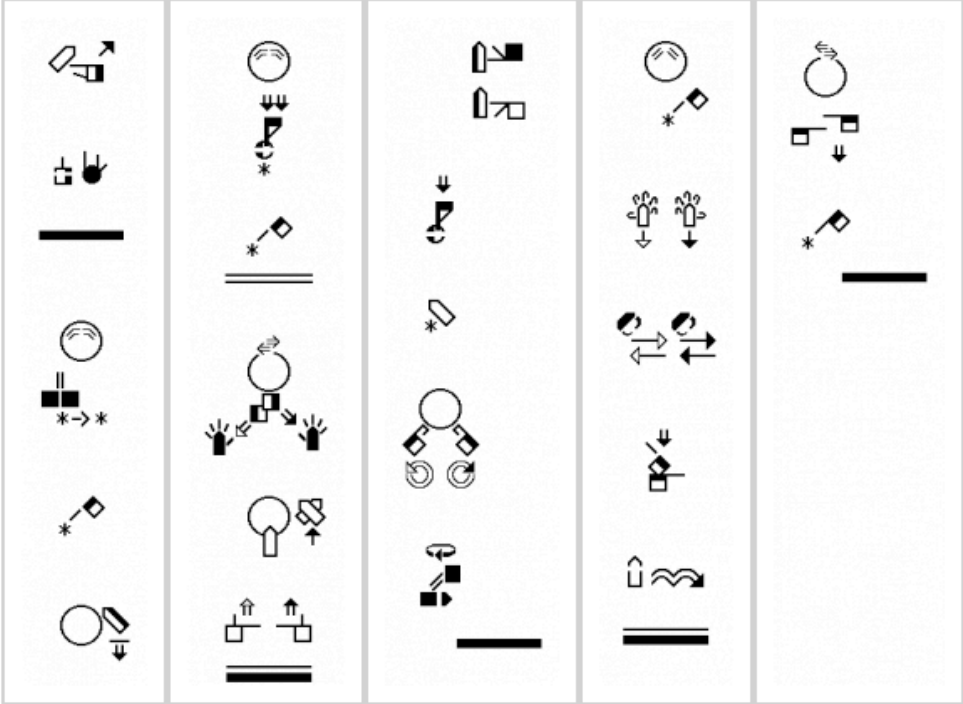




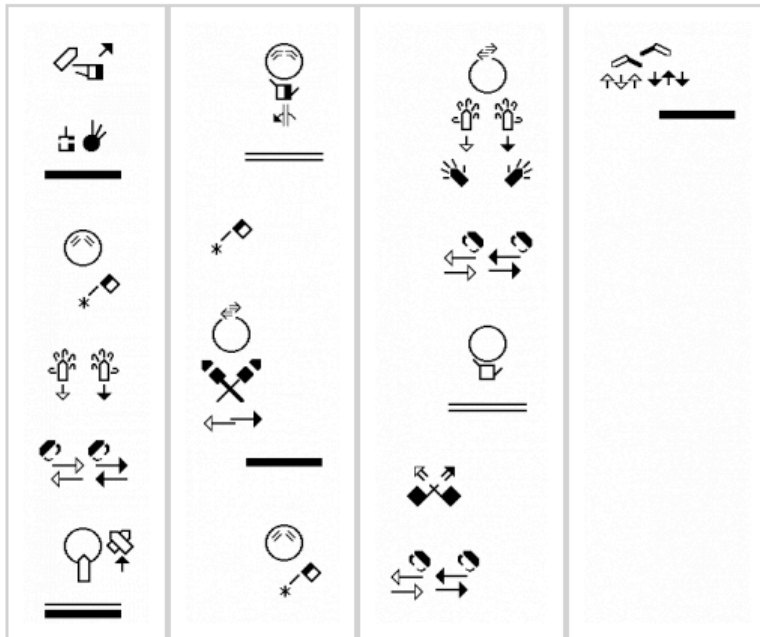
Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.



18. Also I know in me, nothing good lives; meaning in my sinful nature. I want (to) do righteous things; I cannot.

An alien nature got in me. I have a "will" to do good, but I do not have a "how" to do good.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

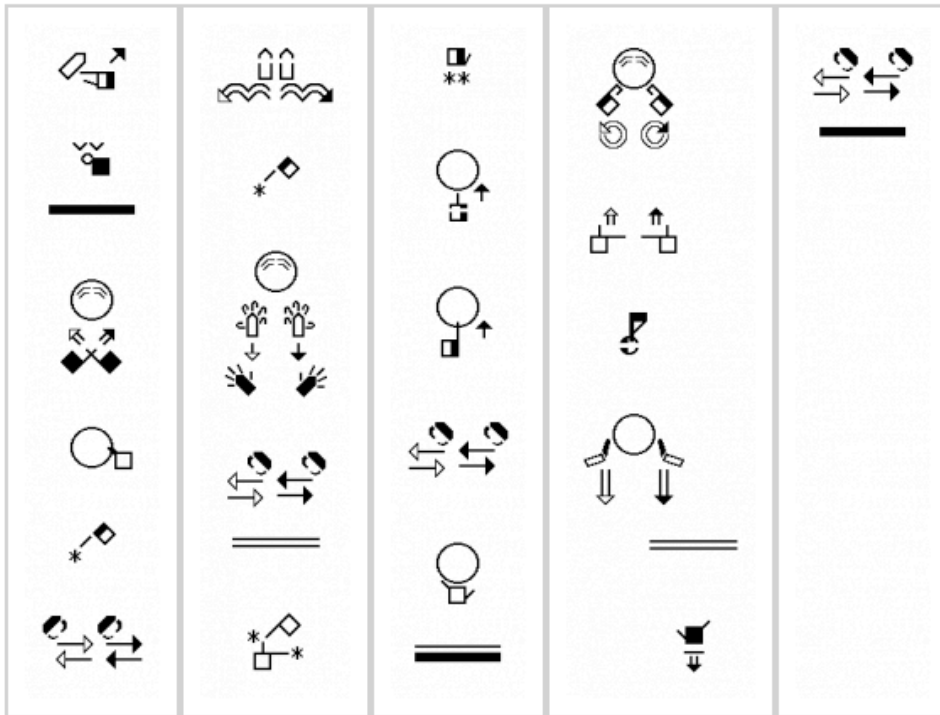


19. I want (to) do good; wrong, I don't. I don't want (to) do wrong, but do (wrong) anyway.

I look down on myself and see that I do not do the good I want to do. I see myself doing evil. The problem is not what I see but what I cannot see.

(III.) When a house has cracks and leaks, paint and putty will not fix it. The problem is deeper.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in

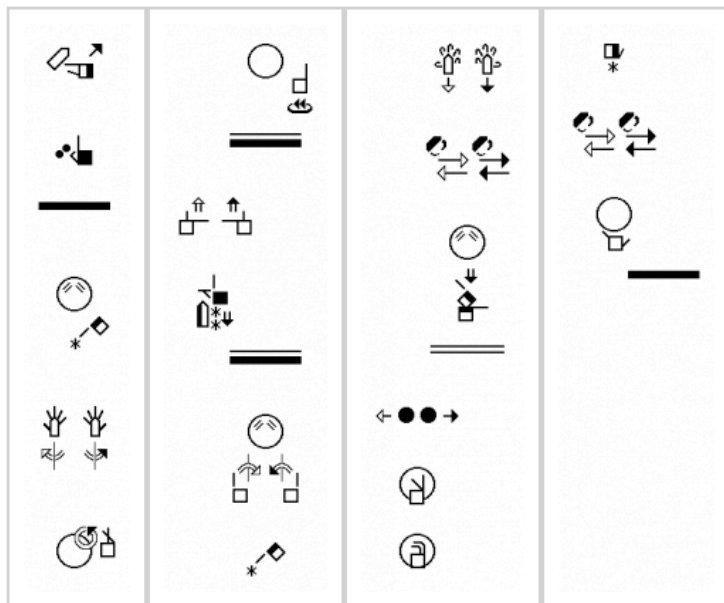


20. But if I do things (that) I don't want (to) do, then I'm not really doing (the) wrong; sin (that) dwells in me, that (is) doing (the) wrong).

Something seems to force me to do evil. This something is called "Sin."

"Cosmetics" will not overcome the sinful nature.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.



21. I realized (there is) always; (a) life principle; when I want (to) do right, no doubt I do evil.

This evil force inside of me is a type of principle or law like the law of gravity, or magnetism. I cannot see it; but I do see its effects.

(III. Louis Pasteur)

(Ge 4:7)...sin lies at the door....

Man's first temptation was hanging on a tree. This temptation waits at the door.

(I Co 10:13)

(III.) My house's foundation could not be fixed until I understood the forces that caused it to sink and crack. We cannot begin to overcome our weaknesses until we understand the evil power that affects every decision we make. We cannot eliminate this power (except when we get our new body); However, the Holy Spirit will help us overpower the evil nature inside our body.