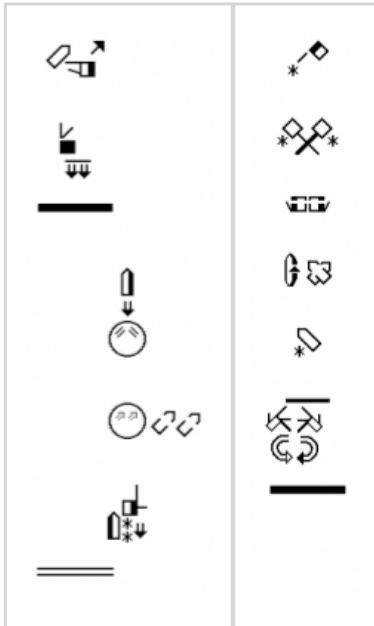


Members Defeat Mind.

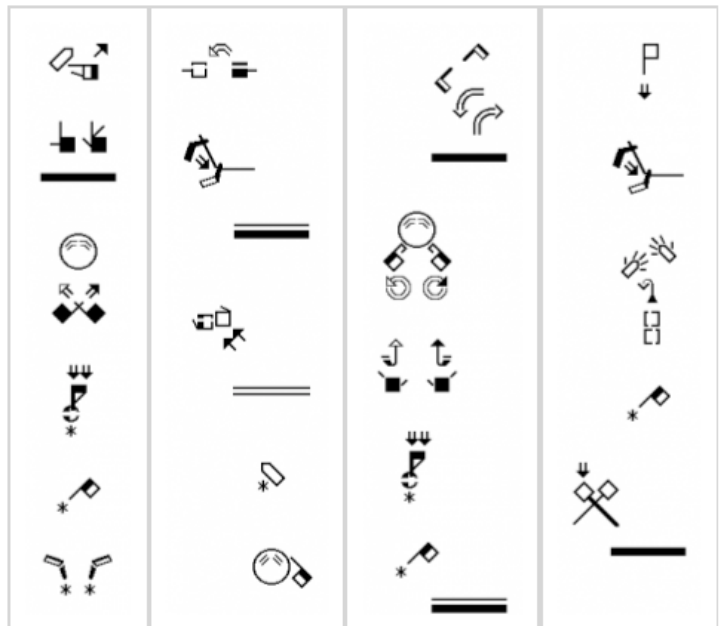
Romans 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

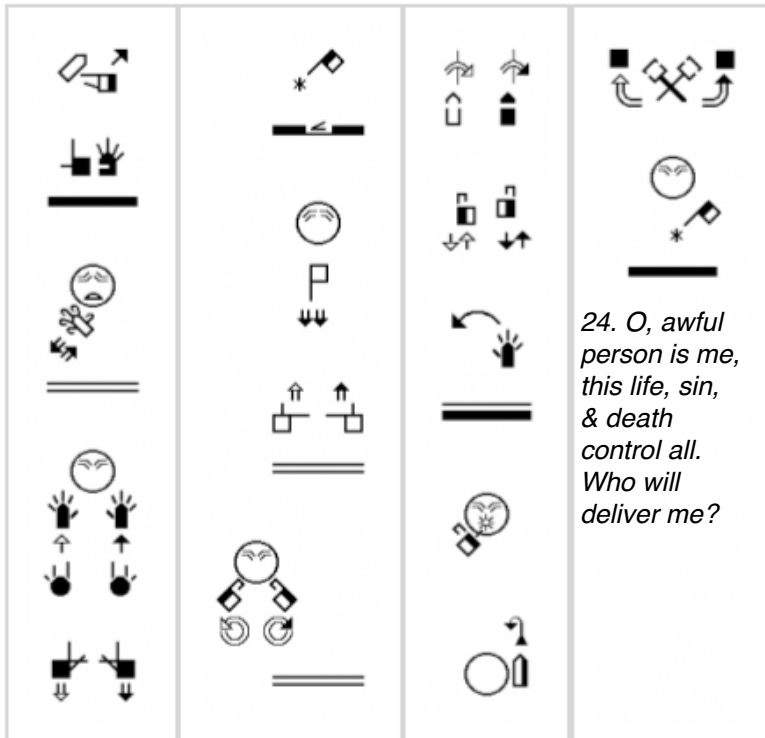


22. God His law, I love with all my heart.

23. But in me dwells another power. Itself, my mind struggles, sin still in me. This power makes me a slave.



24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?



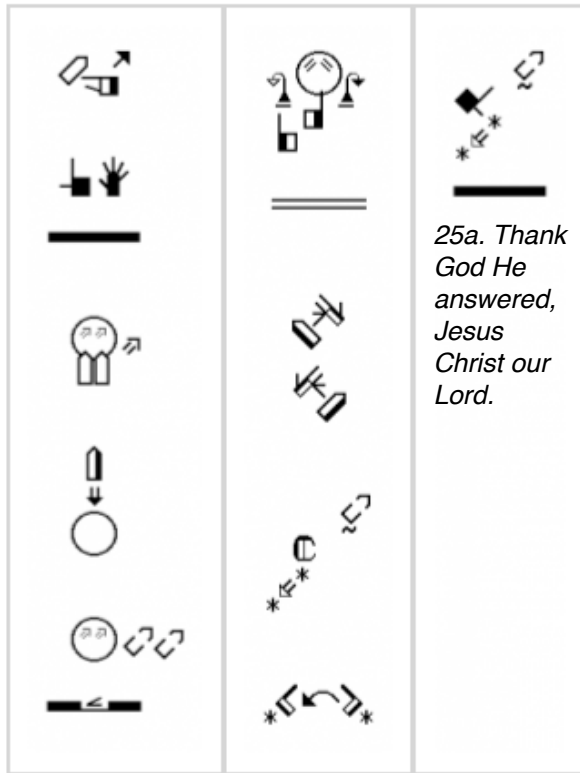
24. O, awful person is me, this life, sin, & death control all. Who will deliver me?

Our mind and our members (body parts) are in a struggle. The Christian mind loves and respects the law of God, but there exists a more powerful force in our members (body). This is called the law of sin. This force makes us wretched. Fighting the law of sin and resisting this spiritual principle is like trying to resist gravity.

Remember it takes spiritual discernment just to recognize the very existence of the law of sin and death.

Wretchedness is the prayer of one who has realized he cannot win this struggle, so he prays for deliverance, not for a new principle but personal help.

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.



25a. Thank God He answered, Jesus Christ our Lord.

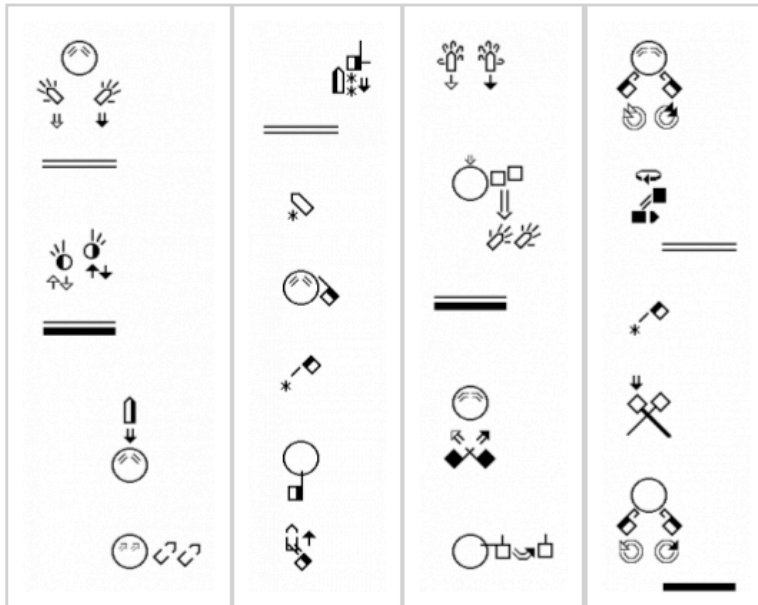
Anyone who has experienced this struggle and realized the futility of human effort and then finding Jesus Christ sufficient to overcome the power of sin is a grateful person. All others either don't care or have given up.

We thank God we do not have to pay the penalty for our sin; we thank God that He enables us to overcome sin; and we thank God that he will give us new bodies when He returns.

Here again the triune nature of God is hinted at. God the Father brings salvation through His Spirit anointed Son, our Lord.

No one can be saved unless he recognizes this is the only way to be saved.

So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.



So then, in conclusion, this is the sum of it. Our situation is this: Our mind serves the law of God; our bodies serve the law of sin.

25b. So, this means, God His law, my mind honestly wants to obey. But because of the sinful nature, I am enslaved to sin.

The fool thinks this (sin) is not his struggle; the wise man realizes this is the problem.