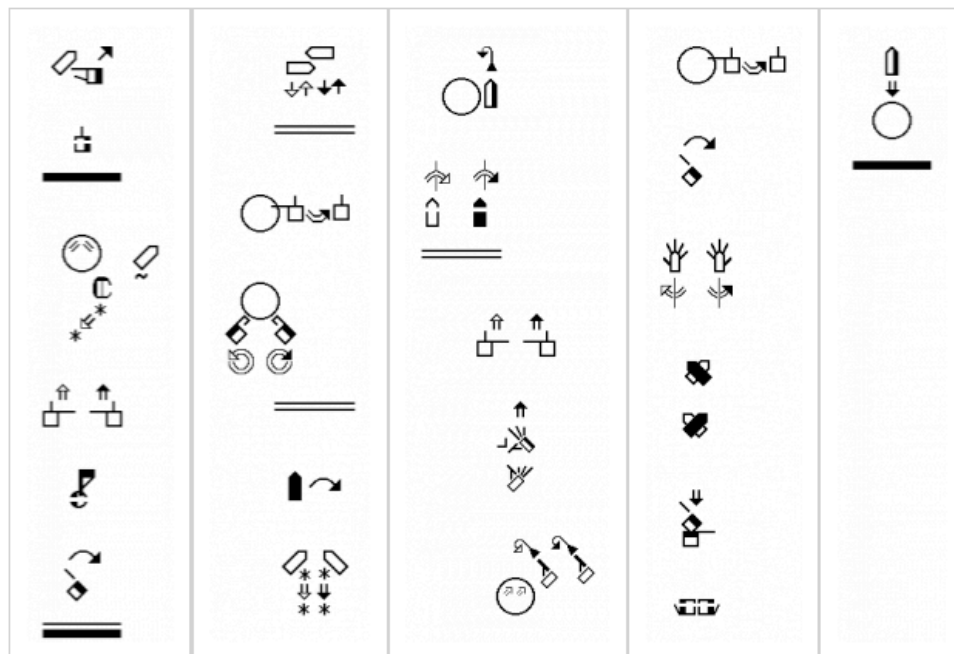


THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION

Romans 8:10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

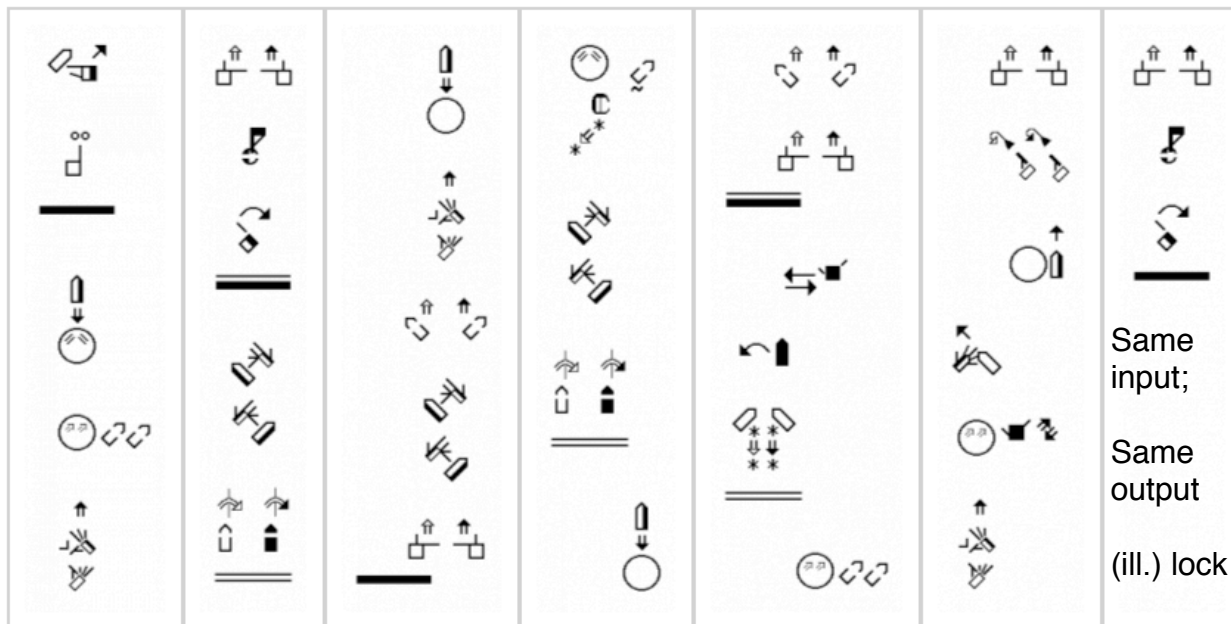


(Eph 2:1)

A pretty fall leaf is dead, even while it hangs on a tree. But the tree is not dead.

The Holy Spirit can live in us because Christ made us righteous.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

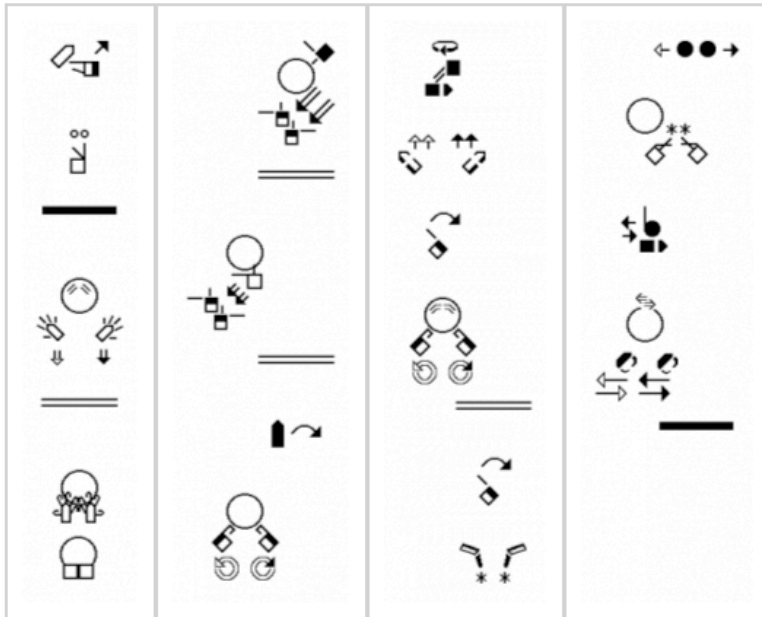


Same input;

Same output

(ill.) lock

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.



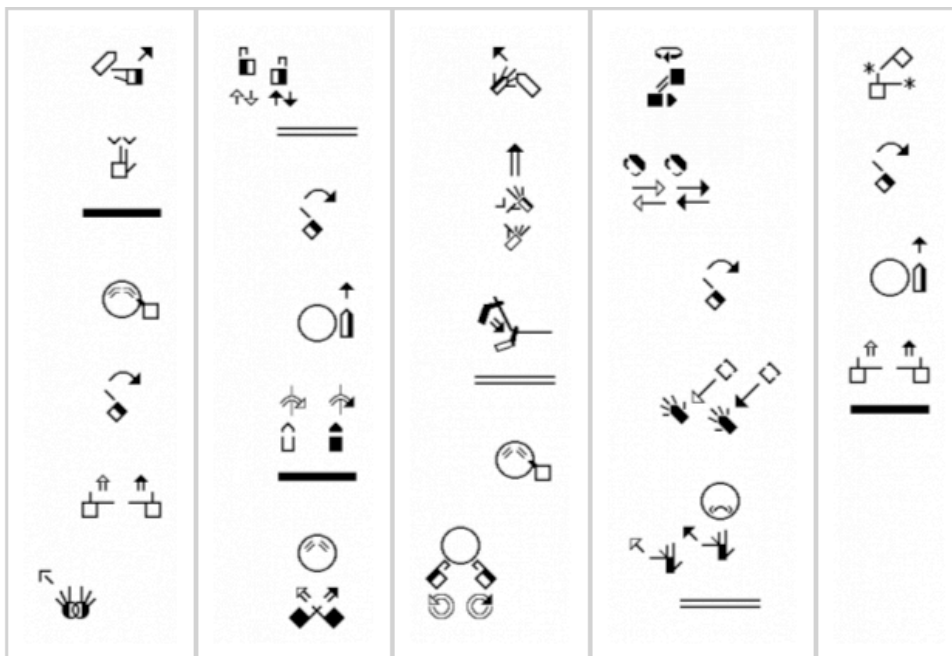
We owe our “Ex” lord nothing. Our new Lord has paid all our debts.

My flesh is what got me in trouble. The flesh, like the devil, likes to fool me into thinking it is good.

Although it is dead; it is not gone.

(Ill.) I don’t have to hug my step mother anymore.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.



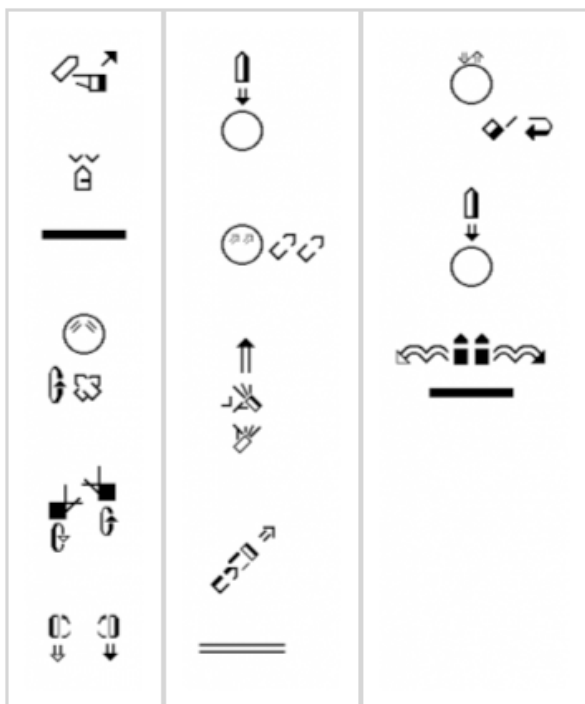
Verse 10 says my body is dead, but if I serve the sinful nature, I will also die.

I must, through the Spirit, mortify (deny) the, deeds, and office, of the flesh.

**Col 3:9,
Rom 12:4**

So, the big question is how do we mortify the deeds of the body. Many people’s thinking it is a mere denial of the negative, but Jesus and the Spirit teach that there **MUST** be a constant movement in a positive direction. **(Lk 11:23-26, Ga 5:18)** (Ill.) An airplane overcomes gravity in two ways: The design of its wings and by forward movement. The Christian is designed to overcome the flesh and that is by walking in the Spirit.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.



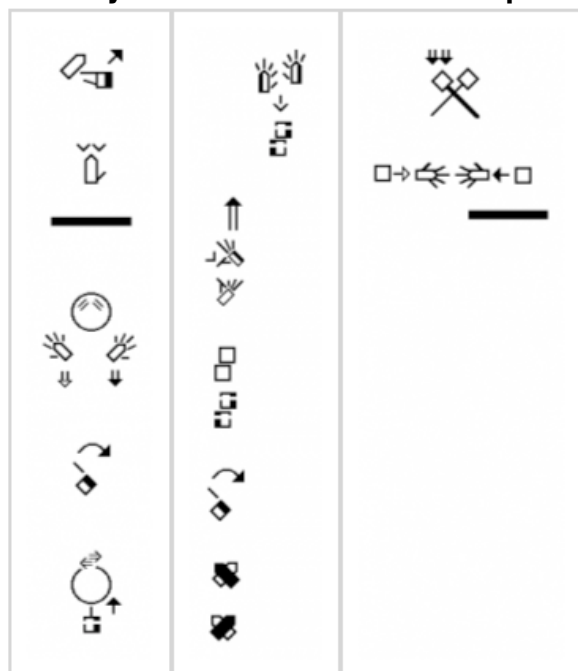
(III.) Ducklings following mother.

[Http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS9GLbCd5wc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS9GLbCd5wc)

You can know who someone belongs to by who they follow. It is natural for a Christian to follow Jesus just like a duckling follows its mother.

Being led by the Spirit requires a keen sensitivity to God. Many Christians put too much emphasis on spiritual direction rather than spiritual character. Character guides direction. (**Ps 37:23**)

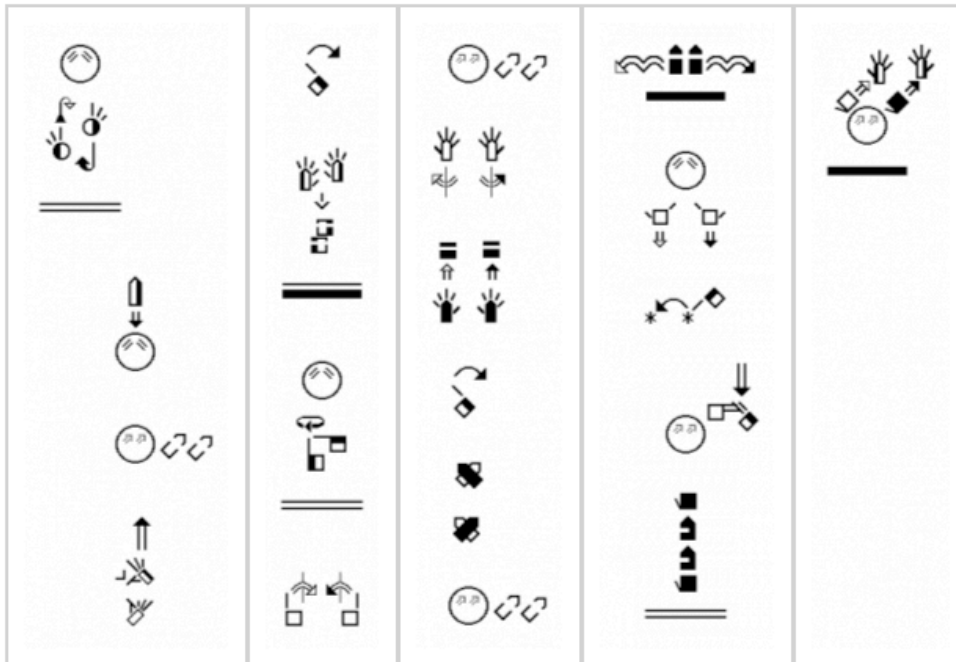
15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear;



Those outside of Christ think themselves free, but freedom is not their possession. They are controlled by fear. They fear crime, loss of money, bad health, getting caught, and they most fear death. They also fear being honest with God, others and themselves.

They try to alleviate their fears in many ways. Yet, the very securities they try to establish (**Ps 127:1**) reminds them of their precarious position. Their fears only increase because they are not right with God, but the righteous are bold. (**Pr 28:1**)

but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

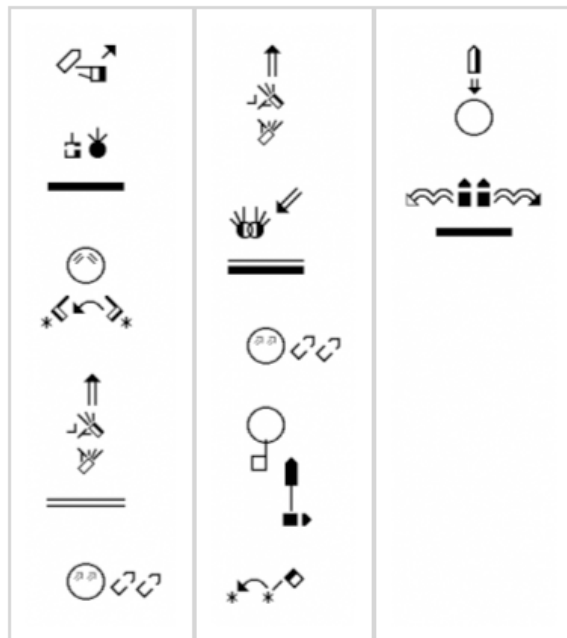


Abba, a term of endearment like “Daddy.” It is the special privilege of beloved children.

Orphaned individuals are brought near; made full children of God’s family. **(Ep 2:12.)**

(ill.)My inheritance of oil rights.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:



Don’t look to your works as proof of your relationship with God but to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

(ill.) I do not look like my Dad but my birth certificate verifies my claim. My heart still calls him Dad.

We are adopted into God’s family. Our birth certificate is the Word of God. **(John 1:12-3)**

Our own spirit confirms this relationship.

After the U.S. Constitution was amended many a black person did not feel like a citizen, others told them they were not equal, but those who chose to believe were truly citizens. (13th amendment, December 6, 1865)