7 The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. They forgot about Yahweh, their God. Instead, they served the Baals and the Ashtereths. 8 Yahweh was very angry with Israel. He sold them into the control of Cushan-Rishathaim (the king of Northwest Mesopotamia) to rule over the Israelites. They served him for 8 years. 9 Then the Israelites cried out to Yahweh. So, Yahweh raised up a deliverer for them. He was Othniel, the son of Kenaz. (Kenaz was Caleb’s younger relative.) Othniel rescued the Israelites. 10 The Spirit of Yahweh came upon Othniel. And, he became Israel’s special leader and went to war. Yahweh handed over Cushan-Rishathaim, the king of Syria into Othniel’s control. 11 So, the land was at peace for 40 years. Then Othniel, the son of Kenaz, died.