

## **Are You God's Deliverer?**

By Bob Young

*But when they cried out to the Lord, He raised up for them a deliverer, Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, who saved them. (Judges 3:9)*

I just completed a Sunday evening mini-series which dealt with primary Old Testament themes. Last Sunday night, we studied the book of Judges. Have you ever heard of a man named Othniel? Perhaps not. He is not one of the more familiar persons in the Old Testament. He was Caleb's nephew. When the people of Israel went into the Promised Land, they were victorious through the courageous efforts of Joshua and Caleb. As the conquering generation grew older, a new generation began to emerge. Israel again fell into sin by worshiping idols. The anger of the Lord burned against Israel, and He allowed them once more to be enslaved by their enemies. When the people again cried out to the Lord, God heard them.

When God's people cry out to him, he hears them. When they are truly repentant, he responds. He responds by rising up those whom he has prepared for such a time. Every soldier looks forward to the day he can use the training he has received. God had been preparing Caleb's nephew for such a time as this. He had the same Spirit as his uncle, Caleb.

The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, so that he became Israel's judge and went to war. The Lord gave Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram into the hands of Othniel, who overpowered him. So the land had peace for forty years, until Othniel son of Kenaz died (Judges 3:10-11).

God uses his people to deliver his people. God uses his people to deliver people from the clutches of sin and Satan. God prepares his people for those times when they are called on to bring deliverance. Have you ever considered yourself as "God's Deliverer"? Millions of men and women are enslaved to the gods of mammon and idolatry. God places his people in strategic places to be deliverers. Whom can you help deliver today? Where has he placed you to be a deliverer? Who are the people in your pathway that need God? Pray that you will have the same Spirit as Joshua, Caleb, and Othniel.