

Reading Report 4

“A Tale of Three Kings”  
by Gene Edwards

Glynnis Gigantone  
ATS New York City

Personal, Professional, and Theological Foundations For Ministry  
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Dr. Ronald Walborn  
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## *Summary*

Gene Edwards' "A Tale of Three Kings" is a fictional retelling of one of the stories in the bible. The story began with a prologue in which God instructed Angel Gabriel to give two portions of His being to two unborn destinies. These are clothes of His very nature and an inheritance that grows in time and fills the inner man. Gabriel reveals to Angel Recorder that the two unborn destinies will become king.

The first chapter talks about David, a sheep-herder who as a young man, is not only skillful in grazing flocks of sheep but also rescuing them from wild prey. David's life takes a new turn when prophet Samuel, by God's command, anoints David to be the future king. Saul, a decent king, was jealous of David's youth and bright future. He became the target of king Saul's anger and abuse when David goes to live in the palace with him. Unmindful of this poor treatment, David ignores and refuses to retaliate. He ran away and hides in caves while soldiers hunt to murder him. Soon after, thieves and criminals who suffered at the hands of king Saul joined him and David became their leader.

Many years later, David is now king in chapter two. He fought wars for his kingdom, leading the people of Israel to peace and prosperity. Absalom, one of the sons of David, sees fault in the leadership of his father and leads a revolt against him. King David, however, opted not to do anything to the astonishment of his advisors. With a conviction that Absalom is God's preferred replacement, David walks away from his kingdom. He refused to fight Absalom, allowing God to do what he wished he would do.

*Interaction and Critique:*

The Tale of Three Kings helps me understand the sovereignty of God and how we are called to be leaders in His name. The three kings painted in the book in terms of their strength and flaws help me figure out which one am I, or perhaps I have a little bit of every characteristic of Saul, David or Absalom's leadership. I reflected on my own sinful reaction and pride and how I can incorporate what I have learned in my own leadership style. We often face seasons of unfair treatment, especially by those who serve in our churches or when things do not go our way. This book teaches us how such a situation can be handled. God gives us a choice how to respond in our brokenness as we seek God more and more.

Gene Edwards is really good in illustrating the emotions of David when he faces a difficult situation. His brokenness and humility pierced my heart. As a leader, we should not fall into unrighteousness, pride and slander even in the most unimaginable situation. Adversities were meant to break us into submission to the power and authority of God. We can only trust our omnipotent God in the midst of trials.

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

Thoroughly and Entirely 100 %

Quickly but Completely \_\_\_\_\_ %

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely \_\_\_\_\_ %

Quickly and NOT Completely \_\_\_\_\_ %

Not at all

Signed: Glynnis Gigantone