



# Pastor's Comments

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## Northampton Assembly of God

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### He Couldn't Save Himself

Roy Larson thought the most difficult part of his day would be maneuvering the unfamiliar stick shift on a "loaner" electric wheelchair as he ventured into downtown Glen Ellyn, Illinois, for a haircut. But his day was about to become much more trying. As he was crossing the railroad tracks on Main Street, **one of the chair's wheels became lodged in the track.** As Larson struggled to free the wheel, something went wrong with the chair's electrical system, and **the chair refused to move. Suddenly the lights began to flash, and the signal bells started to ring. The gates in front of Larson and behind him began to lower.**

The first person Larson saw as **he frantically looked for help** was Mark Bade who sprinted to his side and began to struggle with the chair. At almost the same moment, Don Burgeson had stopped his car at the gates and saw what was happening. He leaped out of the car and helped Bade wrench the chair free from the track and drag it out of harm's way. **"After the train went by, I just said thanks,"** Larson said. **"The only reason I am here today is because these two guys saved my life."**

Larson's frightful experience pictures the reality of the situation everyone is in as it pertains to facing a holy God and coming judgment. **"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God"** (Roman 14:12). The problem is **"all have sinned"** (Romans 3:23) for which all stand guilty before God. Like Larson's struggling hopelessly to free himself, **many try their best to save themselves** by good works and acts of righteousness, but the Bible declares **"all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags"** (Isaiah 64:6). Like Larson, **we needed outside intervention** and God provided it! **"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration...Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour"** (Titus 3:5-6). **Accept His salvation now and thank Him!**