

The diocese underscored that the theme of Brown's fictional novels "does not conform to our views" and "treats religious issues in a way that contrasts with common religious sentiment." Brown, in his highly entertaining — yet grossly inaccurate — narratives, undermines the very foundations of Christian history and belief. He weaves corrupt and misguided church leaders, religious fanaticism, secret societies, and conspiracy theories into his best-selling thrillers.

While the ban will keep film production members from working inside the two structures, exterior photography of the churches will not be prohibited. The movie is scheduled for a May 2009 release.

—MKG

BENTLEY LEAVING FLORIDA OUTPOURING

On April 2, Todd Bentley launched what was to be a one-week series of revival meetings at Ignited Church in Lakeland, Fla. The services, marked with alleged "signs and wonders," quickly drew crowds in the thousands and continued for months. Thousands more watched by television or over the internet. The success of the revival, which came to be known as the "Florida Outpouring," captured not only the attention of Christian publications, but also the national secular media. The latter viewed Bentley with a more critical and proof-demanding lens.

Now, the revivalist who claims to have experienced all types of supernatural encounters and professes to be a conduit for healing and miracles — including more than a dozen resurrections from the dead — has said it's time for him to move on. In a July 21 post on his ministry's website, he stated, "Where once the revival hubs seemed to stay put, sometimes for years, — the Lord is telling us, 'Move, walk the land, move the Ark of My Glory.'" He announced that, "Our final day will be August 23rd, in Lakeland."

Less than two weeks prior to Bentley's post, *ABC Nightline* had spotlighted the revival on its programs. According to the network, "When asked to present evidence of the healings, Bentley promised to give 'Nightline' the names and medical records of three followers who would talk openly about his miracles. He never delivered. Instead, his staff gave 'Nightline' a binder filled with what he says are inspiring miracles, but with scant hard evidence. It offered incomplete contact information, a few pages of incomplete medical records, and doctors' names were crossed out." The Associated Press met with the same unsuccessful results as it tried to follow up on a list of more than a dozen names provided by Bentley's ministry which supposedly represented healings with medical evidence.

Bentley alleges that God has shown him 38 "potential wells to uncap," which include "key" U.S. cities and Birmingham, England.

—MKG

PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH — STATEMENT OF BELIEF

- I. THE BIBLE AS THE DIVINELY INSPIRED, INERRANT WORD OF GOD: IT IS IN ITS ENTIRETY THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR ALL MATTERS OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE.
- II. THE ONE TRUE GOD. IN THE ONE TRUE GOD THERE EXIST THREE PERSONS, BEING: THE FATHER, THE SON JESUS CHRIST, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- III. JESUS CHRIST: HIS DEITY, HUMANITY, VIRGIN BIRTH, SINLESSNESS, DEATH AND BODILY RESURRECTION; WHO WILL PERSONALLY AND VISIBLY RETURN AGAIN TO EARTH.
- IV. THE PERSONALITY AND DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- V. THE EXISTENCE AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN, HIS TOTAL OPPOSITION TO GOD, AND HIS POWER OVER THE UNREGENERATE.
- VI. THE COMPLETE AND TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF ALL MEN WHICH MAKES THEM HOPELESSLY LOST WITHOUT THE NEW BIRTH OBTAINABLE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.
- VII. THE FINAL ESTATE OF MAN: FOR THE SAVED, EVERLASTING LIFE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND FOR THE UNSAVED, EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF.
- VIII. THE GOSPEL BY WHICH WE ARE SAVED BEING SUMMED IN THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
- IX. THE CHURCH BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST, UNITED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, CONSISTING OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR. A LOCAL CHURCH IS AN ORGANIZED ASSEMBLY OF BELIEVERS UNITED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST.
- X. THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST BEING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL MEN, BAPTIZING AND DISCIPLING THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED.