

Priestess in the Yoruba Religion Praises Oprah's Love

Television personality Oprah Winfrey is 1 Corinthians 13 in the flesh, life coach and frequent *Oprah* guest Iyanla Vanzant says.

"The personification of love," Vanzant says. "To me, that is who and what Oprah Winfrey is: a human personification of love."

The problem is Vanzant is a priestess in the Yoruba tradition. Given her beliefs, this is not the type of endorsement you want, even if it points to 1 Corinthians 13. Consider this religion, according to Wikipedia:

According to Kola Abimbola, the Yoruba have evolved a robust cosmology. In brief, it holds that all human beings possess what is known as "Ayanmo" (destiny, fate) and are expected to eventually become one in spirit with Olodumare (Olorun, the divine creator and source of all energy). Furthermore, the thoughts and actions of each person in Ayé (the physical realm/Life) interact with all other living things, including the Earth itself.

Each person attempts to achieve transcendence and find their destiny in Orun-Rere (the spiritual realm of those who do good and beneficial things). One's ori-inu (spiritual consciousness in the physical realm) must grow in order to consummate union with one's "Iponri" (Ori Orun, spiritual self).

Those who stop growing spiritually, in any of their given lives, are destined for "Orun-Apadi" (the invisible realm of potsherds). Life and death are said to be cycles of existence in a series of physical bodies while one's spirit evolves toward transcendence. This evolution is said to be most evident amongst the Orishas, the divine viziers of Olorun.

