

Jamaica Baptist Union 170th General Assembly Dealing with Corruption in Jamaica

Whereas Corruption is characterized by dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, as well as systemic in nature, typically involving bribery, abuse of power, position and privileges for self-serving purposes.

And whereas corruption in Jamaica at various levels of society has been an ongoing reality manifesting itself in areas of political administration, the security forces, business, religious groups including Christian Church groups, and public bodies among others

And whereas Jamaica has recently slipped on the Global Corruption Perception index falling four places and is now ranked 74th of the 180 countries on the global anti-corruption ranking.

And whereas in its various forms corruption is a serious threat resulting in the decay of social order and the rule of law inhibiting the ability of the State to effectively discharge its responsibilities and obligations, loss of lives, destruction of property, financial mismanagement, abuse of public funds, mistrust of leadership and oppression and injustice meted out to those who can least afford it.

And whereas Corruption and crime continued to plague the prosperity of our nation and its citizens

And whereas the Bible clearly affirms that corruption in any form is indefensible and as Baptists at our 170th Assembly Meetings we contemplate the theme, "Keeping Faith With the Word in an Ever-Changing World", affirming our identity as bearers of the light and righteousness of Jesus Christ

BE IT RESOLVED that as Christians across Jamaica we:

1. Resist and discourage persons from participating in any known form or act of corruption.
2. Take a zero-tolerance approach to acts of corruption in its various forms.
3. Expose any known act of corruption to the appropriate bodies or agencies.
4. Use our resources, influence and platforms to educate congregants and the general public concerning corruption, its causes, effects and prevention.
5. That the Jamaica Baptist Union through its various channels take every appropriate action to expose corruption in whatever form and sphere it exists, as well as **advocate for an improved justice system to speed up the adjudication of** corruption cases.