

ABSTRACT

ASPECTS OF ANGLICAN MISSION AND MINISTRY IN JAMAICA 1825 – 2000

FRANKLYN ANDRÉ JACKSON

The Anglican Church has had a very checkered history throughout the Caribbean lands and Jamaica is no exception. Being the longest continuing Christian witness in the island of Jamaica, one would believe this would have given it great success. On the contrary, persons seem to gravitate to the less formal denominations. A young woman commented when invited by an Anglican to Church, *Mi caan come a dat, it a no Church, it a society.*

This paper will attempt to examine aspects of the Anglican Church in Jamaica from 1825 to the year 2000 – the mission it has been engaged in and the ministry it has exercised over these years. It will look at the “white-led” Church versus the “black-led” mixed Church. The pattern

pursued will be a review of literature – the Synod journals over the years, which record some of the Church's decisions in the exercise of mission and ministry. Interviews will be conducted and questionnaires will be administered.

It is evident that the Anglican Church, as it came to Jamaica, planted itself firmly. It went through many drastic changes to become a national Church having a "black face" through emancipation. However, as the Church continues to meet the demands for mission and ministry it shall continue to go through changes, as it adapts to becoming a Church for the people through shared leadership, with the guidance of God's Holy Spirit. The research has uncovered what Kortright Davis has put forward in his book *Emancipation Still Comin'*, the Diocese is still learning. The Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands will continue to become agents of God's saving grace in the nation. In the words of Samora Machel who visited Jamaica in the 1970's, *aluta continua* – the struggle continues.