**On Gambling**

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Baptist Convention has a long history of opposing gambling in its various forms, such as casinos, lotteries, racing, and other gambling schemes; and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of neighbor-love, necessitating the financial loss and harm of many for the gain of a few and enjoying entertainment at the expense of others ([Exodus 20:17](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Exodus%2020.17); [22:21](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Exodus%2022.21); [Leviticus 25:17](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Leviticus%2025.17); [Deuteronomy 22:1–4](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Deuteronomy%2022.1%E2%80%934); [Matthew 22:39](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Matthew%2022.39); [Mark 12:31](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Mark%2012.31); [Romans 13:8–10](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Romans%2013.8%E2%80%9310); [Galatians 5:14](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Galatians%205.14); [James 2:8](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/James%202.8)); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of lordship, tempting individuals to trust chance rather than God, who provides for the needs of “the righteous and the unrighteous” ([Matthew 5:45](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Matthew%205.45); [6:24](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Matthew%206.24); [1 Corinthians 10:31](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Corinthians%2010.31); [2 Corinthians 9:8–12](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/2%20Corinthians%209.8%E2%80%9312); [Philippians 4:18–19](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Philippians%204.18%E2%80%9319); [Colossians 3:17](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Colossians%203.17); [1 Timothy 6:17–18](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Timothy%206.17%E2%80%9318)); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of work, looking to gain something for nothing, hoping for easy money rather than pursuing responsible industry, investment, and labor ([Genesis 1:28](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Genesis%201.28); [Exodus 20:9](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Exodus%2020.9); [Psalm 104:23](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Psalm%20104.23); [128:2](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Psalm%20128.2); [Ecclesiastes 2:24](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Ecclesiastes%202.24); [1 Thessalonians 4:11–12](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Thessalonians%204.11%E2%80%9312); [2 Thessalonians 3:7–12](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/2%20Thessalonians%203.7%E2%80%9312)); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of the civil magistrate, causing governments to prey on their own citizens through state-sponsored gambling rather than protecting them and seeking their good ([Proverbs 8:15–16](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Proverbs%208.15%E2%80%9316); [Amos 5:10–13](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Amos%205.10%E2%80%9313); [Romans 13:4](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Romans%2013.4); [1 Timothy 2:1–2](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Timothy%202.1%E2%80%932); [1 Peter 2:13–15](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Peter%202.13%E2%80%9315)); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of contentment, enticing individuals to greed and covetousness in the hope that in winning, others will lose financially ([Exodus 20:17](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Exodus%2020.17); [Deuteronomy 5:21](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Deuteronomy%205.21); [Luke 12:15](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Luke%2012.15); [Romans 7:7–8](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Romans%207.7%E2%80%938); [Colossians 3:5](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Colossians%203.5); [1 Timothy 6:9–10](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Timothy%206.9%E2%80%9310); [Hebrews 13:5](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Hebrews%2013.5)); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of stewardship, encouraging reckless and careless speculation with resources entrusted by the Lord while disregarding the same Lord who provides for all human needs ([Matthew 6:19–34](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/Matthew%206.19%E2%80%9334); [1 Timothy 6:17–18](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Timothy%206.17%E2%80%9318); [1 Peter 4:1–11](http://biblia.com/bible/hcsb/1%20Peter%204.1%E2%80%9311)); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, November 12, 2019, condemn gambling in all its forms; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge our leaders at all levels of government to end state-sponsored gambling, to curtail all forms of destructive gambling, and to address its harmful effects through policy and legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage our Convention leaders, entities, and pastors to continue to educate Kentucky Baptists on the deceptive sin of gambling; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we urge our fellow Kentucky Baptists and all other followers of Christ not to participate in the sin of gambling.