

Several years ago, while in the Post Office I overheard a conversation that ended with the line, "You must behave, but that means you can't have any fun." The general tenor of the exchange was just that--in order to enjoy yourself you have to break the rules every now and then. Does the world think that the only way to have fun is to break the accepted rules of behavior?

To behave means that one will do what is acceptable in the sight of authority. Without authority life would be chaotic. A society where "everything goes" is too horrible to contemplate.

Unfortunately many people enjoy their sinful ways so much they have no intention of giving them up, even if it hurts themselves or those around them. They don't want to "play by the rules." To them the goal is "fun" and it doesn't make any difference as to how one goes about obtaining it.

Jesus Christ was a man who lived a righteous life. He was (is) an example of perfect behavior in the sight of God. Yet, just as Jesus "played by the rules" I believe He truly enjoyed life too! John records Jesus saying, "...I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" (10:10). This means that one can play by the rules, behave, and live under authority while having fun at the same time!

Happiness need not be elusive. With Christ it is attainable, and you can have it without cost to your soul, or to those around you.

Let me encourage you to "play by the rules" and live according to the commandments of Jesus. Only then will we enjoy and live life to the fullest!

See you Sunday!

-gls