A number of good articles this morning to chose between, but I had to pick this one as I think it's important we should highlight the suffering of our brothers and sisters in other countries. We were talking about persecution in our Bible study last night in 1st Peter 4. It was very interesting. And we had the report by Release International yesterday, that up to 250 million Christians will face persecution somewhere in the world during 2007. The Voice of the Martyr's has revealed that Christians in India are being terrorised by the Hindus. One church building was burnt to the ground by Hindus, after it was decorated for Christmas. In another church, members were beaten up by Hindu attackers while they gathered for a prayer service on Christmas eve. But it's not just persecution from Hindus that the Christians have to worry about, the Indian government has also harassed and arrested Christians on Christmas eve, and ordered them not to celebrate Christmas.

Quote: *"Officials also are expressing alarm over India's move towards more attacks on Christians after one lawmaking body in Dharamshala passed legislation banning so-called "forced religious conversions." That would give authorities the go-ahead to "punish" anyone who "forced or induced someone to change his/her religion," opening wide a door to retaliate against Christians after the fact if anyone converts, they said. It was the sixth Indian state in recent months to adopt such laws, which typically are used to target any Christian ministry.*

Yet in all this persecution, thousands are being saved in India. Hundreds of assemblies have been planted in the country over the last few years, and they are growing fast. Here, assemblies are dying out and yet there is little or no real persecution. You would think the opposite should happen. Perhaps we should remember our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering, and take a greater stand for the Lord in this country, which has enjoyed so much freedom.

Acts 5:40-42
And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten [them], they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

Source WorldNetDaily