

# Who Could Have Stopped Christmas?

## Introduction

- *This is one of my favorite Christmas lessons I have ever put together. I heard someone on the radio talk about this and the idea has always stuck with me. - MBG*
- Ever notice how many movies, TV shows, etc. are made about people who try to stop Christmas from happening?
- Let's look back at the REAL Christmas story and look at a few people who could've REALLY stopped Christmas.

## Mary

- Luke 1:30-31
- To her was entrusted a glorious burden, one that must be borne through hardship and shame
- What if she had refused?
- What if she had given up?

## Joseph

- Matthew 1:19-20
- He must bear the shame and support Mary
- What if he had carried out his plan to "put her away"?
- What if he had prosecuted her for adultery?
- What if he had not believed the Lord's message to him?

## Inn Keeper

- Luke 2:7
- He had no room but still found some shelter for Mary and Joseph
- What if he had refused their support and not aided them?

## Wise men

- Matthew 2:12
- They could have reported back to Herod.
- What if they had reported back?
- What if they had not heeded God's warning?

## **Herod**

- Matthew 2:16
- He really did try to stop Christmas by the Slaughter of the Innocents
- What if he had succeeded?
- What if he had been paying attention to prophecy and was waiting for Christ?