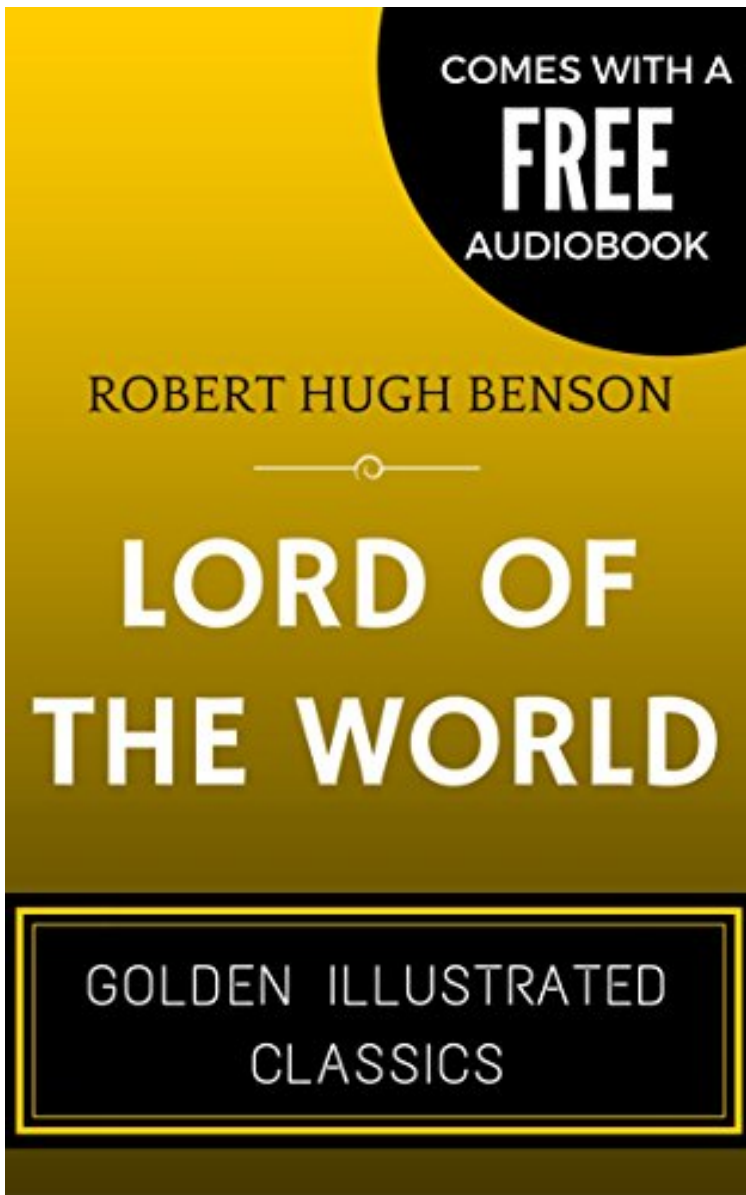


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Like many other Catholics of the era in which he wrote, Monsignor Benson shares the political and economic views of G. K. Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc. *Biographie de l'auteur* Robert Hugh Benson (1871-1914), enjoyed a celebrated and prolific career although it lasted little over a decade. In addition to a great many non-fiction works, he authored twenty novels and short story collections that combined a specific moral orientation with an astonishing popularity among the general public of the early twentieth century. As an Anglican and later a Catholic priest, Father Benson was in great demand as a speaker in both England and the United States. The most sensational English convert from the Anglican Communion to Catholicism since John Henry Newman, "Hugh," as his friends and family called him, was a son of the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury. Benson wrote from a Catholic perspective, but with real understanding and sympathy for the Protestant position.