

The image features a landscape that is upside down. The top half of the image shows a lush green field, which appears to be the ground. The bottom half of the image shows a clear blue sky. A single, leafy green tree is positioned in the upper right quadrant, appearing to grow from the sky and reach down towards the green field. The overall composition is a visual metaphor for the concept of being upside down.

# THE BEATITUDES

Living right-side-up in a upside-down world













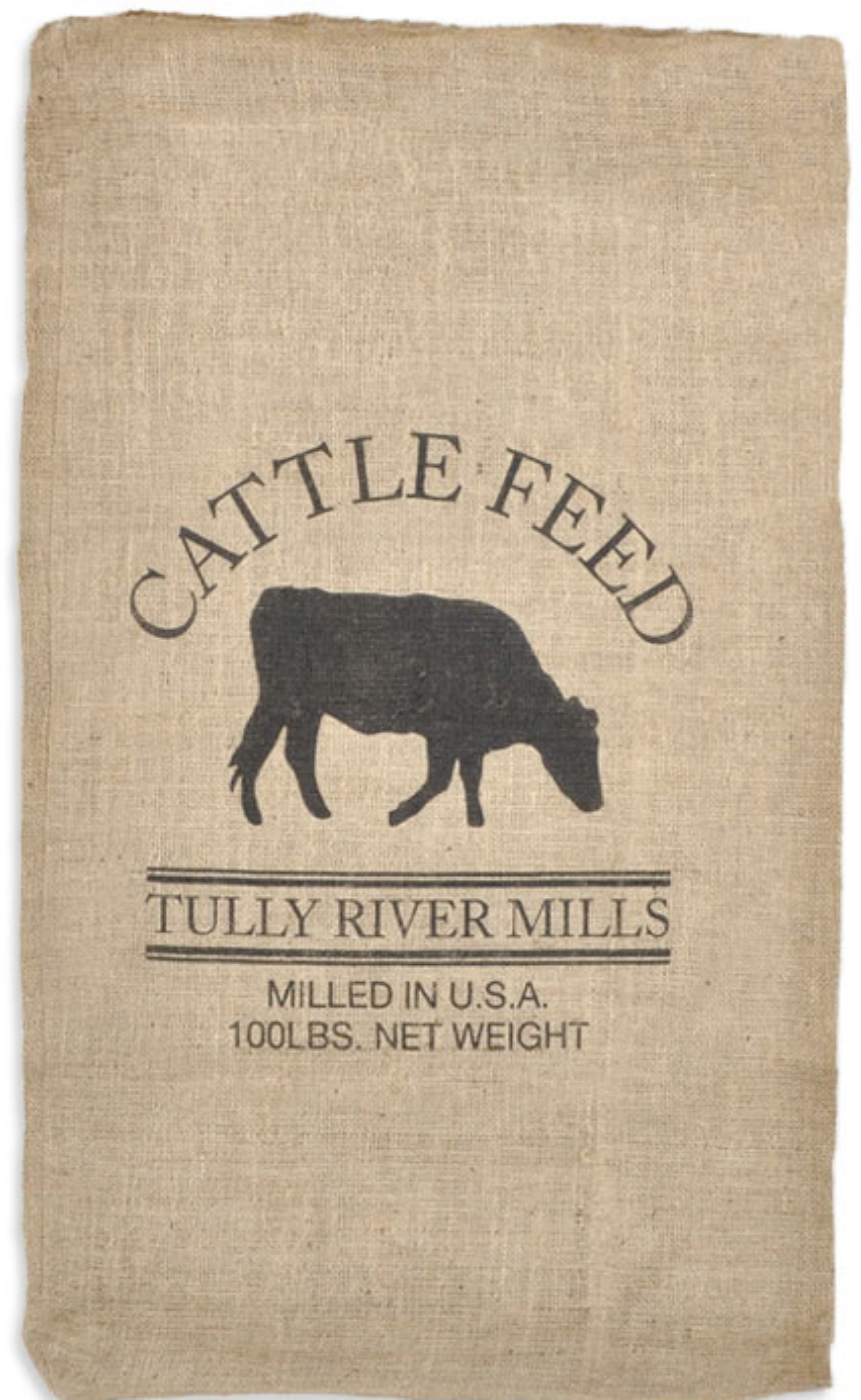


















**You plant corn.**

**You get corn.**







## **Matt 5:1-10**

**<sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them.**

**He said:**





## **Matt 5:1-10**

**<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**





## **Matt 5:1-10**

**<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.**

**<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.**





## **Matt 5:1-10**

**<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

**<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**





## **Matt 5:1-10**

**<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

**<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**



**<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**







**<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed *are* the merciful | Present Tense**





**“What is good?: All that heightens the feeling of power, the will to power, power itself in man.**

**What is bad?: All that proceeds from weakness.**

**The weak and ill-constituted shall perish; first principle of our philanthropy. And one shall help them to do so.” ~Nietzsche**



A conceptual image showing a single tree with green foliage growing upside down from a grassy hill at the top of the frame. The background is a clear blue sky. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**“Truly, I have often laughed at the weaklings,  
who think themselves good because their  
claws are blunt.” ~Nietzsche**





**<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

***Blessed are the merciful* | Present Tense**

***for they will be shown mercy* | Future Tense**



Grace is *getting* what you *don't* deserve.







Grace is *getting* what you *don't* deserve.

**Mercy is *not* getting what you *do* deserve.**





## **Ephesians 2:4-5**

**But because of his great love for us, God, who is **rich in mercy**, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.**



**Mercy mirrors Jesus.**







**Mercy mirrors Jesus.**

**For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and  
acknowledgment of God rather than burnt  
offerings (Hos 6:6).**







Mercy mirrors Jesus.

**Mercy enters the sufferings of others.**







Mercy mirrors Jesus.

Mercy enters the sufferings of others.

**Mercy tempers judgment.**



**“Mercy, detached from justice, grows  
unmerciful.” ~C.S. Lewis**







**Mercy tempers judgment.**

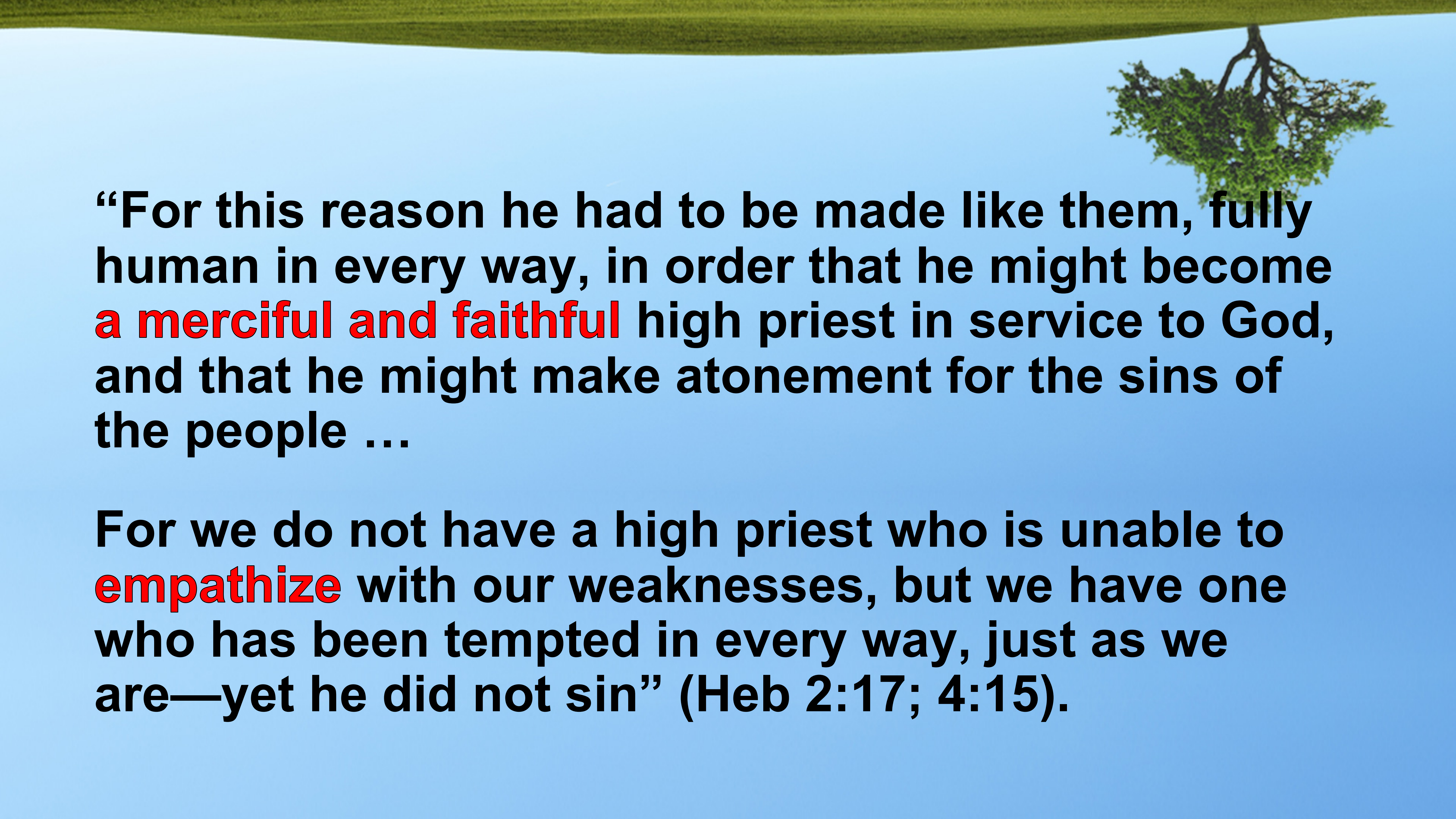
**For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment (Jas 2:13).**



**<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**







**“For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become **a merciful and faithful** high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people ...**

**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to **empathize** with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin” (Heb 2:17; 4:15).**



**Mercy mirrors Jesus.**

**Mercy enters the sufferings of others.**

**Mercy tempers judgment.**





The image features a landscape oriented upside down. The top half of the image shows a lush green field, which would be the ground in a normal orientation. The bottom half shows a clear blue sky. A single, leafy green tree is positioned in the lower right quadrant, appearing to grow from the sky. The text is centered in the middle of the image, between the field and the sky.

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