I find the convergence between Bultmann's view and Wieman's striking when Bultmann says, "That God is the Creator means that our action is determined, not by timeless principles, but rather by the concrete situation of the moment."

Wieman's polemic against "ideals" and "humanism" makes essentially Bultmann's point in polemicizing against the primacy of "timeless principles." And Wieman's demand that we subject all created good—including not least our hightest ideals—to the overriding authority of creative good, i.e., of the creative event, echoes Bultmann's demand that we allow our action to be determined by the concrete situation of the moment rather than timeless principles.

2 December 2004