

Power, Knowledge and Wisdom

Power – the ability and resources to make people do things without giving them reasons or even being truthful about it.

Knowledge - Understanding as to what to do and how to do it.

Wisdom - Understanding why the knowledge is accurate, how it gets misinterpreted and when to use it appropriately in new and untested situations.

Most leaders are primarily concerned with POWER (i.e., control, certainty, results, etc), the most trivial and petty of the three. The greatest tyrants in history were obsessed with power.

Many leaders will acquire KNOWLEDGE as they need it, but mostly rely on others to handle that. Knowledge is a valuable tool, but often it gets reduced to “information”, which is not the same thing. (If you don't know the difference, you should find out.) Some leaders master the accumulation of knowledge and become persuasive and eloquent in their delivery of it. Socrates disdainfully regarded these guys as “sophists”.

The only trait that is worthy of a true leader is WISDOM. How much of your conscious energy do you spend training yourself in that area? Tsk, tsk. Pity the poor subjects that must endure the chaos of the unwise leader.