Difference between Motive and Intention (Jurisprudence)

Motive	Intention
1. Meaning	**1. Meaning**
Motive is the reason why a person commits a crime. It answers the question: *"Why did the person do it?"*	Intention is the mental decision or plan to commit an act. It answers the question: *"What did the person want to do?"*
2. Nature	**2. Nature**
Direct (background reason)	Direct (state of mind at the time of act)
3. Importance in Law	**3. Importance in Law**
Usually not essential to prove a crime. It only helps to understand the case.	Very important in criminal law. It helps to decide whether a person is guilty or not.
4. Legal Value	**4. Legal Value**
Has little legal value. A good motive cannot justify a crime.	Has high legal value. It determines criminal liability.
5. Example	**5. Example**
Example 1:	**Example 1:**
A kills B.	A kills B.
A wanted revenge because B insulted him.	A planned to kill B.
Example 2:	**Example 2:**
A steals money to help a poor family.	A steals money to help a poor family.
Helping others (good motive)	To steal money (wrong act)