8-40) For escape from the solar system,

$$\Delta V_{escape} = V_e \left| \left\{ 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2r_2}{(r_e + r_2)}} \right\} \right|_{\substack{Lim \\ r_2 \to \infty}}$$

where V_e is the earth's velocity in a helio-centric inertial frame, and r_e is the radius of the earth's orbit in the same system.

Thus, $\Delta V_{esc.} = V_e(\sqrt{2} - 1)$.

For falling into the sun,

$$\Delta V_{sun} = V_e \left\{ 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2r_1}{(r_e + r_1)}} \right\}_{\substack{Lim \\ r_1 \to 0}} = V_e.$$

Thus, $\Delta V_{sun} > \Delta V_{esc}$ and it's easier to escape the solar system than drop into the sun.